TREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN MANCHURIA

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION, PENSION AND INSURANCE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

Printed for the use of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Serial No. 99-61

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

65-338 O WASHINGTON : 1986

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402

H761-6.

65-338 O - 86 - 1

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, Mississippi, *Chairman*

DON EDWARDS, California
BOB EDGAR, Pennsylvania
DOUGLAS APPLEGATE, Ohio
RICHARD C. SHELBY, Alabama
DAN MICA, Florida
THOMAS A. DASCHLE, South Dakota
WAYNE DOWDY, Mississippi
LANE EVANS, Illinois
MARCY KAPTUR, Ohio
TIMOTHY J. PENNY, Minnesota
HARLEY O. STAGGERS, JR., West Virginia
J. ROY ROWLAND, Georgia
JOHN BRYANT, Texas
JAMES J. FLORIO, New Jersey
KENNETH J. GRAY, Illinois
PAUL E. KANJORSKI, Pennsylvania
TOMMY F. ROBINSON, Arkansas
FRANK McCLOSKEY, Indiana
CHARLES W. STENHOLM, Texas
JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, Arkansas
CHALMERS P. WYLIE, Ohio
ELWOOD HILLIS, Indiana
GERALD B.H. SOLOMON, New York
BOB McEWEN, Ohio
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, New Jersey
DAN BURTON, Indiana
DON SUNDQUIST, Tennessee
MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, Florida
NANCY LEE JOHNSON, Connecticut
GUY V. MOLINARI, New York
THOMAS J. RIDGE, Pennsylvania
WILLIAM M. HENDON, North Carolina
JOHN G. ROWLAND, Connecticut

MACK FLEMING, *Chief Counsel and Staff Director*

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION, PENSION, AND INSURANCE

DOUGLAS APPLEGATE, Ohio, *Chairman*

G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY, Mississippi
DAN MICA, Florida
WAYNE DOWDY, Mississippi
LANE EVANS, Illinois
TOMMY F. ROBINSON, Arkansas
FRANK McCLOSKEY, Indiana
GERALD B.H. SOLOMON, New York
CHALMERS P. WYLIE, Ohio
JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT, Arkansas
DAN BURTON, Indiana
GUY V. MOLINARI, New York

CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

Page

Hearing on Treatment of American Prisoners of War in Manchuria 1

OPENING STATEMENTS

Chairman Applegate 1
Hon. Gerald B.H. Solomon 2

WITNESSES

Hatcher, Chief John H., Army Records Management, Department of the Army, and Archivist of the Army 7
Prepared statement of John H. Hatcher 39
James, Frank, former Prisoner of War, Camp Mukden, Manchuria 16
Prepared statement of Frank James 46
Rodriquez, Greg, Jr. 24
Prepared statement of Greg Rodriquez, Jr. 48
Triplett, Wiliam 32
Prepared statement of William Triplett 52
Williams, Hon. Pat, a Representative in Congress from the State of Montana .. 3

MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

Statements:
Hammerschmidt, Hon. John Paul 56
Tadej, Peggy 57

HEARING ON TREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN MANCHURIA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION, PENSION AND INSURANCE,
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:38 a.m., in room 334, Cannon House Office Building, Hon. Douglas Applegate (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Applegate, Evans, Robinson, and Solomon.

OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN APPLEGATE

Mr. APPLEGATE. Good morning.

First of all, let me just make perfectly clear that we have standing rules of the committee as to when we expect to have written statements submitted to the committee. We have times in which we expect those to be submitted. I am disappointed that that has not been fully complied with, that one of the statements was delivered yesterday and the balance were not here as of 9 o'clock this morning.

It is very important to the members that we have the statements beforehand so that we know what the witnesses are going to say. I would say that in the future I hope that the witnesses will comply with our rules. It would be most unfortunate if the hearing were to be cancelled or a witness not be allowed to testify simply because of his or her failure to submit their testimony.

We are meeting this morning to hear testimony on an issue which was brought to my attention by my good friend and colleague, the Honorable Pat Williams of Montana.

According to information he has provided, there are reports that the Imperial Government of Japan may have been responsible for medical experiments involving germ warfare conducted on American prisoners of war during World War II.

We have heard that a Japanese medical group, identified as Unit 731, was located approximately 350 miles from Camp Mukden, a facility established by the Japanese to hold American military personnel captured in the Pacific theater early in World War II.

According to a TV documentary broadcast last year by the BBC, Unit 731 was created to develop germ warfare capability by the Japanese. Some American POWs who were held at Camp Mukden

were interviewed by BBC and said they believed they were used for experiments by Unit 731 personnel. The Department of Defense witness will have comments on that later today, as I understand.

The focus of the BBC documentary was on the issue of whether Unit 731 personnel should have been subject to trial as war criminals because of their activities involving germ warfare. This committee does not have jurisdiction on the matter of war crimes.

We will hear from a witness from the Department of Defense who will present testimony on the issue of whether or not Americans were involved in medical experimentation. We will also hear from an American prisoner of war who was held at Camp Mukden and from other witnesses who have done a great deal of research on this question.

I want to make it clear that the issue before the committee today is whether or not Americans held at Camp Mukden have suffered, or, are now suffering, from events which occurred at the camp. I have consistently stated that this subcommittee is dedicated to making sure that all veterans, especially former prisoners of war, receive benefits for medical problems related to their military service.

We have long adhered to the principle that disabilities incurred coincident in point of time with military service should be service connected. Conversely, our deliberations have not been governed by the existence of a causal relationship.

This principle is best shown by the fact that current law provides benefits for such chronic conditions as cardio-vascular disease, diabetes, pulmonary disease, and others, if they are manifested in service. We do not look to the cause of such conditions. With this in mind, I want to repeat that our main objective in holding this hearing is simply to get information on whether former POWs held at Camp Mukden have demonstrated any medical symptoms which could be reasonably traced to their period of military service.

At this time I want to recognize my friend and the ranking minority member, the Honorable Jerry Solomon of New York, for whatever remarks he may wish to make.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

Mr. SOLOMON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, you have pretty well covered the issue. Let me just say that, besides serving as the ranking member on your subcommittee, I am also the chairman of the House Task Force on POW/MIA Issues. I am very hopeful that this hearing will help us to shed some light on the question of Japanese activities in Manchuria at Unit 731 during World War II. If it can be established that the Japanese were, indeed, conducting some kind of germ warfare experiments on American prisoners of war there, we then should address whether any harm resulted to those men.

The many years which have passed since 1945 certainly may complicate the inquiry, but it is never too late to give the issue as much consideration as the available evidence allows us to. I think that former prisoners of war especially deserve every reasonable opportunity to establish claims for service-connected disabilities. I

will be most interested to hear the testimony today, Mr. Chairman, and I commend you for calling this hearing.

Thank you.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Jerry. I can vouch for the fact that Jerry Solomon has been one of the outstanding members of this committee and also, as he said, has been very active in the MIA/POW situation as it exists today. He has put forth a lot of effort in seeing that those perhaps who are still there will someday be freed, or the information forthcoming.

Our first witness today will be the Honorable Pat Williams of Montana. It goes without saying that Pat has consistently shown that he is another one of the great friends of America's veterans. He has always been in full support of the committee when we have needed him. He has especially been active in matters affecting prisoners of war.

Pat, it is always good to have you before the committee. You may read your statement or summarize, however you see fit.

STATEMENT OF HON. PAT WILLIAMS, A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF MONTANA

Mr. WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. You're very kind. I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you this morning.

Let me say first that, to its credit, the Veterans' Affairs Committee and this subcommittee, through the many years, has displayed the willingness and determination of ensuring that our veterans, including, of course, our POWs, receive fair and just treatment.

Some veterans today—veterans captured and imprisoned in World War II's Pacific Theater—have a story to tell and an agonizing chapter of their lives to resolve. These veterans, I tell this committee, have not received justice and they need your help. Mr. Chairman, I am very pleased with your willingness to hold this hearing, to listen to their story, and to seek remedies where this committee believes those remedies are due.

These men are victims of a terrible secret, born 44 years ago deep in Manchuria in Japanese POW camps. Theirs perhaps, has been the longest and best kept secret of World War II, long denied by Japan and long concealed by the U.S. Government.

Bit by bit, and year by year, despite our Government's public statements of ignorance, the truth has been leaking out. We know now that Mukden was more than just another Japanese POW camp for Allied soldiers.

Operated by Japanese scientists from Unit 731, Mukden was the site for deadly chemical and biological experiments, for injections, body dissections, blood and feces tests, freezing of body parts, infection of wounds with anthrax, the applications of plague bacillus, cholera, dysentery, and typhoid.

That, Mr. Chairman, was what was waiting for many of the American fighting men who survived the Bataan Death March. Along with our soldiers at these terrible camps were also men from China, Great Britain, Australia, and the Soviet Union. We don't know how many survived, but we do know that the U.S. Government knew of the experiments at the war's end.

We know it from the words of retired Col. Murray Saunders, who was America's Far East military command advisor on germ warfare in Tokyo after the war, and who traveled here to the Nation's capital this past winter for a news conference with me to unveil the secret. We know now that a deal was cut, that our military command extended immunity to the Japanese scientists from war crimes prosecution in exchange for the data from the experiments. We know because Lieutenant Colonel Saunders acknowledges that he was the go-between and helped arrange the deal.

Mr. Chairman, it is not the task or jurisdiction of this subcommittee, I know, to seek out culpability and I don't desire that. What is at issue is the treatment now, today, of the American survivors of those Japanese camps. These veterans have a right to the complete records on what they experienced so that doctors seeking to treat their ailments will be given the benefit of all the medical history available to our Government.

Those who, indeed, were subjected to experimentation also have a right to compensation because of the often vague and exotic illnesses they suffer. The facts are all too clear, that too many of the American prisoners of war at those Japanese germ warfare camps have been provided neither adequate health care or appropriate compensation.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, several years ago a fellow Montanan came to my office seeking relief denied by the Veterans' Administration for Mukden prisoner number 768, his father. Greg Rodriquez, Jr. is here with us today as a witness on behalf of justice for his dad.

Greg Rodriquez, Sr. was a subject of the germ warfare experiments and since his wartime captivity had suffered severe, baffling and disabling fevers. Through many decades—mind you, decades—of work and persuasion, the VA finally extended some relief to Mr. Rodriquez.

Others have faired much worse. I am submitting the records for Felix Kozakevitch, an American soldier from New York, who was imprisoned at one of these experimentation camps. He was prisoner number 660. Apart from severe beatings, Kozakevitch was subjected to frostbite experiments, forced to stand at attention in deep snow in subzero temperatures.

Felix Kozakevitch never received compensation, never received needed counseling, and never received adequate health care. The country for which he fought spent the rest of his life denying his terrible experience. Prisoner number 660, Mr. Kozakevitch, died last winter.

The chairman of your full committee, Congressman Montgomery, once talked with another of those prisoners held by Japan, a gentleman named Warren W. "Pappy" Whelchel. Pappy was held at Mukden, experimented upon, and spent 40 years trying to get health care from the VA for his lingering illnesses. Time and again, he was told his diseases could not be possible until, when Pappy died, not many months ago, an autopsy was performed and finally revealed the truth of his claims.

Mr. Chairman, let's not let time expire on the others who came out of those experimentation camps. Let's make sure they finally receive the fair treatment to which they are due.

Now, if I may make a couple of personal observations, Mr. Chairman, in the way of summary and in conclusion, there is now absolutely undeniable evidence that the camps existed. That is no longer denied. There is now absolutely undeniable, incontrovertible evidence that the American high command granted amnesty to the people performing the experiments in exchange for that awful data.

Now, I understand that our Government consistently has denied any firm knowledge that any Americans were experimented upon. But today you will hear from a POW who was experimented upon. To deny that truth is to deny the existence of that POW.

A second concluding remark, Mr. Chairman, is that VA health care officials understand that if they are to provide proper health care for our returning veterans, they need as much medical information, including information about how that veteran received his injuries or illnesses, as possible. Our Government denies that it has any information which would help it in counseling or providing health care to these veterans because we continued to deny they were ever experimented upon. I know that the Department of Defense is going to come before you today and deny that there's any evidence like that available which might help these veterans get proper health care and mental counseling.

Mr. Chairman, you will hear from a witness today who will lay upon this table reams of health care information which came from the camps, which are available to the VA, medical information which our Government will not share with the VA because it denies it ever existed.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War was established with your leadership and the leadership of other members of this committee under Public Law 97-37, and in its first report to his committee and to the Congress in July of 1984, that subcommittee found this—and I quote—referring now to POWs generally:

"It is clear that the progress to date is not satisfactory. The effort started too late. Entirely too many delays have been experienced. We are obliged to point out that prompt and effective action is essential. The overwhelming majority of former POWs are from World War II an their average age is more than 60."

As you know, Mr. Chairman, I had recommended to you that the chairman of that advisory committee, Lieutenant Colonel Flynn, come before this committee. Perhaps he might have informed you as to why the next report, due in July of 1985, from that committee was never brought to this Congress, although required to be done so by law, and perhaps he could comment on the specifics of these POWs whom we are hearing from today. Lieutenant Colonel Flynn chose not to even show up at this hearing. I personally think that's an affront to these POWs, and I think further that it continues to show this Government's disdain for these men who underwent these terrible experiments.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I want to thank you, because this marks the first time in 44 years that the Congress of the United States has agreed to focus upon this problem. You and the members of the committee are to be commended for making this matter public

and for trying to determine how to bring just compensation and appropriate health care to these former POWs.

Thank you very much.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Pat, for an outstanding statement. It was very well articulated. You certainly know your subject and you have put a lot of study into it.

The fact that you made a point about the one fellow, "Pappy" Whelchel, and that he fought for 40 years and died without getting any compensation or any benefits whatsoever—is that correct?

Mr. WILLIAMS. For benefits, compensation, health care or counseling for those illnesses, which were the result of his incarceration and experimentation.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Did he get anything as a result of service-connected benefits?

Mr. WILLIAMS. I believe he did. I believe Pappy did receive some benefits, some compensation for other difficulties that he had due to other service-connected problems.

Mr. APPLEGATE. How long did he spend at Mukden?

Mr. WILLIAMS. I'm uncertain, Mr. Chairman. It seems to me he was there more than a year.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Were there experiments done, to the best of your knowledge, at Camp Mukden, or were they all done supposedly at the other camp, which I don't have by number, which I think was some 350 miles away?

Mr. WILLIAMS. To the best of my information, Mr. Chairman, they were done in at least two and perhaps several locations, including Mukden.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I thank you again.

Mr. Solomon, do you have questions of Mr. Williams?

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Chairman, I first of all want to commend Pat for his articulation and documentation here this morning. We really do appreciate it, Pat.

Do you have any idea how many POWs who were actually at Camp Mukden are still alive? Do we know that?

Mr. WILLIAMS. Well, you know, it is very difficult to find out. The outreach portion of the omnibus POW legislation is not working as I think we had hoped, so we are uncertain how many there were. We believe that there were several hundred survivors.

Mr. SOLOMON. I just might point out to the committee that our full committee passed a bill several months ago, which is over in the Senate right now. It provides a presumption for certain disabilities.

Mr. MOON (subcommittee counsel). Yes, sir. H.R. 4333 would grant a presumption of service connection for traumatic arthritis, for spastic colon, and for residuals of frostbite, if there is no intervening accident which would have caused it. We know that there is no documentation, especially among the Japanese camps, but if a man has the condition, and the VA has not recognized it before, and he didn't get, say, frostbite on a hunting expedition after he got out of service, then under this bill that we have passed the VA would recognize those conditions.

It would also confer dental treatment for any POW held for 90 days or more.

Mr. SOLOMON. I was just going to point out, Mr. Chairman, that you were one of the major sponsors of that legislation that is over in the Senate. There is also other presumptions for nervousness, et cetera, that are already written into the law. We ought to push as hard as we can to get that bill enacted into law.

Pat, I thank you very much for coming before us.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Thank you very much.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Jerry. I think that bill will be passed by the Senate and will be passed into law. I think it's a move forward.

We next have Mr. Tommy Robinson from Arkansas.

Mr. ROBINSON. Pat, I also want to commend you for your excellent efforts in reference to this matter. I want you to know that I think it's unconscionable that our Government would deny that these prisoners were mistreated the way they were. I want you to know, when our Government witnesses come forward today, I intend to grill them to the best of my ability.

Once again, I appreciate your efforts. Hopefully, because of you and others, we will be able to compensate these veterans, even though it is long overdue. I thank you for appearing today.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you, Mr. Robinson.

I might just point out that, while we don't know how many are living, at the time of liberation, from the information that we have, there were 80 American officers and 1,038 enlisted men, 176 British officers and 108 enlisted men, 58 Dutch officers, 7 enlisted men, and 4 civilians, for a total of 1,671.

Pat, once again, thank you very much for coming to the committee and bringing this very important testimony to us.

Mr. WILLIAMS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I would like nothing better, after 4 or 5 years of working on this issue, to remain with you, obviously. But I have in my own committee a markup proceeding without me, so I must get over there. I am going to try to return and see if I can't hear some of the testimony.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Very well.

The next witness that we will hear is Dr. John H. Hatcher, Ph.D., Director of Army Records Management, Department of the Army. Dr. Hatcher, welcome to the committee.

We do have your statement and it will be submitted for the record, without objection. If you wish to summarize, or however you see fit, we are willing to listen.

STATEMENT OF JOHN H. HATCHER, CHIEF, ARMY RECORDS MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, AND ARCHIVIST OF THE ARMY

Dr. HATCHER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I apologize for the Department of the Army for the lateness of the statement reaching you. I can realize the problems that this imposes.

There are two things I would like to say immediately. I was referred to earlier as the Department of Defense representative. I am not that. I am speaking strictly for the Department of the Army.

I should like the committee to know that I appreciate the weighty issues that you're going to be wrestling with. They are emotion charged and they commence to fall into the category of an-

cient history. There are some peculiar problems that have developed entirely independent of what happened in the beginning days of World War II which is going to make it even more difficult to wrestle with.

With all of this, I should also like to point out that I am a veteran. I walked out of the hills of Kentucky when I was 18 years old, about 3 weeks after the war started. I spent the war in the Pacific and was on occupation duty in Japan when many of these incidents commenced to happen. So my entire life has been spent in the Federal service, 27 years in uniform and for the last 15 or 16 in a civilian capacity.

I am afraid that my statement will not have all the fire and drama that properly attends this issue, because my discussion will have to be fairly technical. That discussion has to center around only one issue, possibly one point of one issue, and that is whether or not the Department of the Army has records to support any of the proceedings or considerations that will take place in this committee.

Certainly at this point I don't think I want to read verbatim from my statement; I'm sure it provides more information about Army records than this entire room will ever want to know. It is not exactly the most exciting subject in the world for those who have not spent their lives in it. But it is necessary to talk in some very broad detail of the problems that are inherent in such a massive system of records keeping as we have in the Department of the Army.

To begin with, we have a management structure of about 40 or 50 people here in the Nation's capital, and an infrastructure of possibly 400 other positions and people scattered throughout the Army and throughout the world. In order for the Army to operate itself, we require about 5 million cubic feet of records a year. They are broken up into various categories, in many different categories, and we keep those records for varying periods of time—some of them as briefly as only a few minutes, and others we keep for the life of the Republic, for as long as there actually is a United States.

In this massive accumulation of materials we have found that over the course of the years that we probably create and destroy in any given year's time a million feet of records that never actually get beyond the office that they appeared in. So the sum total of this is that we do have a tremendous number of records on hand. In the 40-year period that has intervened between the incidents in Manchuria and the present time, we probably created upwards of 40 million feet of records and destroyed 40 million feet of records, and kept out of that less than one-half of 1 percent.

But even that one-half of 1 percent that survived the passage of time and eventually appears in the National Archives tells a very complete story of the Army's involvement. We feel that we have investigated the possibility of providing records to support the history of what has happened.

We have come up with some materials—certainly not conclusive. We have not come up with any primary materials. Now, primary materials would be things of an actual experimental nature, case files, medical files, records obviously created by Unit 731 during that period, possibly reworked or treated by SCAP, the Supreme

Command Allied Powers, General MacArthur's headquarters. None of that we have. We don't know whether we ever had possession of that or not.

It's possible that in one brief period we may have had some of those materials. We did not address that issue conclusively because, contrary to our use of the German captured records following World War II, the Japanese captured records were actually brought to the United States and held here in the Nation's capital, primarily in the National Archives building itself for a number of years, finally boxed up and sent back to Japan, because the problem of language was too difficult for us to overcome. It was written in many different dialects, many different alphabets, congu or conji, all of those things. The records were just more difficult than we could do anything with. In fact, they were so difficult that we did not even copy them. I think we boxed them up and sent them back to Tokyo.

In the case of the German records, the language was no difficulty there. We used them, we copied them, and we still have those copies. So in those records that were returned to Japan may have existed some of the primary materials that we don't have.

Now, in the intervening years, the subject, with all of its charged emotion, has become very popular. It has fired the popular imagination. The television cameras are used very widely to take care of the popular appetite for these things.

As near as we can determine, most of the documentaries that have been produced, and most of the materials that have been located, are secondary materials that were prepared as a result of a report from General MacArthur's headquarters, from SCAP itself. This report still exists, has been interpreted. We have done some other reporting through the years from our own Army centers that were interested in this sort of experimental and development work. But again, that is all of a secondary nature. It deals generally with probably the nature of the things that happened, with no regard whatsoever for the individuals that were involved in it, either those conducting the experiments or the people that might have been experimented upon.

The fact remains that we simply have no identifiable body of records anywhere in the Army's holdings, or the Army's holdings that have subsequently been passed into the National Archives, that would tend to either support or, on the other hand, to refute the claims that are being made.

I mentioned before the Army's recordkeeping system is a massive system. We deal in macro figures of millions of cubic feet of records. That is not to say that when we need a particular set of information that we start in box one and run through a million boxes of paper looking for it. Certainly we have that material broken up functionally, subjectively, chronologically, organizationally, so that we know the sort of information we're looking for and can generally zero in on those particular agencies and examine their holdings.

This through the years is what we have done with the issue at hand. We looked at records currently in Army offices that would be interested in these areas. We have looked at those records again in the National Archives that would be interested in those areas, and

we have come up with possibly a couple of hundred pages of material, certainly not an impressive volume of materials, to support the enormity of what is claimed to have happened.

I alluded in my opening remarks to some special difficulties that would attend the problems of the committee. One of those difficulties is the disastrous fire that we had in St. Louis in 1973, which virtually wiped out the World War II Army portion of military personnel files that were held there. The Air Force didn't do too badly; the Navy had scarcely any loss at all. But the bulk of that fire was centered in Army World War II records. That probably is the main crux of the veterans that we would be looking for in that section. The individual files almost completely were destroyed. We have been able to do computer reconstructions where we have established some essential facts of military service, for the most part facts legally sufficient to sustain entitlements and VA benefits. But so far as going into individual files, even on a name basis, and producing evidence that proved conclusively that an individual had been subjected to interment in these particular camps, or the treatment they had in those camps, that would be virtually impossible on the basis of the surviving records.

So, Mr. Chairman, I have to conclude at this point, that we have through the years delivered up to the public, through the avenue of the Freedom of Information Act, and through our own historical efforts, all the materials that to this point we have been able to identify that deal with this subject.

[Prepared statement of John H. Hatcher appears on p. 39.]

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Dr. Hatcher.

Let me ask you this. Can you tell me what other organizations might have retained records of the post-war occupation of Japan? Are there any other organizatons that you know of that keep these records?

Dr. HATCHER. Do you mean beyond the Department of the Army?

Mr. APPLEGATE. Yes.

Dr. HATCHER. Well, certainly the State Department would be involved in this area, and to a degree, the other two military departments. The Department of the Army has never been strongly represented in the Far East. Obviously, World War II was largely an Army war in Europe. The Air Force and the Navy, to a much larger degree, did the bulk of the fighting in the Far East. When the occupational forces settled in, it was those units that virtually did that occupation service and in the intervening years have maintained strong bases in the Far East.

So it would be fair to query the Departments of the Air Force, the Navy, and the State Department.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Let me ask you this. Did the Army have files of experimentations or any files relative to Mukden, or the so-called testing camp?

Dr. HATCHER. No, sir. We do not presently have.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Did you have? Did the Army originally have those files from those camps?

Dr. HATCHER. No, sir. We have no evidence that we ever held any materials from those camps. The earliest record that we can come up with is the report prepared in General MacArthur's headquarters. This was 1945 or 1946. And it appears that this report

was largely done from interrogations, from interviews, from that sort of material, without much, if any, access to original documentation that might have come from Mukden or similar establishments.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Did your bureau have files of any other alleged experimentation camps, either in the South Pacific or in Europe?

Dr. HATCHER. Not in the South Pacific. There was a goodly amount of POW material, POW camp material, that we came into possession of in the Philippines. But to the best of my knowledge, for the rest of the Far East, we had little, if any, original materials. Again, the language was the primary difficulty there.

Just the opposite case existed in Europe. We literally were drowned with documentation in Europe that we had captured on the spot and lent itself to immediate use. In fact, we had special units set up in Europe. The Ash Can Project is one case in hand, which used exclusively records of the Nazi party, or the concentration camps themselves, to prepare the prosecutions for Nuremberg. But we didn't have access to this sort of material in the Far East.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Anything that you had then you don't have now, though? Do you have any of those records now? I see in here that you destroy 99.5 percent of all the records that you create.

Dr. HATCHER. Yes, sir.

Mr. APPLEGATE. What is the five-tenths of 1 percent?

Dr. HATCHER. The five-tenths of 1 percent are those things that are determined to be permanent records in accordance with the Federal Records Act of 1950, determined by the Archivist of the United States, to be so important as to be kept as long as there is the United States.

Mr. APPLEGATE. That would obviously not pertain to individual members of the armed services, but important to the security of the country? What is the determination based on?

Dr. HATCHER. The security of the nation, something that documents the existence, the organization, the activities of the Army with respect to the security of the nation. Personnel records, individual personnel records, per se, do not come near that category. As a matter of fact, we normally consider them at the outside to be a 75 year record.

Mr. APPLEGATE. If that is the basis, do they still do it that way, or because of the fact that now you have microfilms that they can keep a lot more files available? Do they still destroy 99.5 percent of all the records?

Dr. HATCHER. Yes, sir. Even though we have a much more sophisticated recordkeeping system, the electronic systems where we have great storage capacity, the vast bulk of the records that we create are of ephemeral value.

We run into a cost problem as well. The more sophisticated the recordkeeping system, the more expensive it becomes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Do you know if the material that was returned to Japan might have been microfiled before it was returned?

Dr. HATCHER. No, sir, it was not.

Mr. APPLEGATE. It was not.

Dr. HATCHER. It was simply packed up and sent back. Again, it would——

Mr. APPLEGATE. Shouldn't we have done that?

Dr. HATCHER. Really, I can't——

Mr. APPLEGATE. Don't you always keep a file of things you send out, like we do, so we can sort of make a reference?

Dr. HATCHER. The problem here is, with the language it was written in, we simply could not find enough translators and interpreters to tell us what we had. It was quite different in the case of the German materials, with the modern European languages. Washington runs over with German-speaking Americans. We don't have quite that many people in Washington who can handle Hongul or Konchi or some of the others.

It may not have been a good decision at the time. I can't address that issue. But for whatever reason, the language difficulty, the cost of copying, the probable or improbable future value of those things, that had to have been taken into consideration. It was a joint Defense and State Department decision at the time, that these materials would be repatriated without retaining copies.

Mr. APPLEGATE. In your statement I notice that you say that you have searched the proper places in the Army recordkeeping system through the years for data to support this cause, the cause being, I guess, the subject of the BBC or other allegations made, and appear to have turned up some 200 pages of secondary material. In talking about secondary material, do you mean——

Dr. HATCHER. Reports that were written after the fact, not materials that we would have captured in Mukden and brought to this country, or that we even had access to at the time.

Mr. APPLEGATE. So you don't think that anything you have come up with is anything of any great significance or importance?

Dr. HATCHER. It's just not that detailed, sir. Certainly it does nothing in the way of identifying people. In many cases, it deals very generally with the type of experimentation.

With regard to the proper places, obviously, we went to those agencies, those parts of the Army that are concerned with this. There's no secret about that. This would be Fort Detrick, Edgewood Arsenal, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Dugway Proving Ground, those laboratory facilities that would have the sort of interest and the capability of considering these materials.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Lastly, your conclusions. What you say is, "Based upon the manner in which records pertaining to American prisoners of war were generated by multiple sources at the end of World War II, cataloged and preserved in the Archives, the absence of such records suggests that Americans were not subjected to biological experimentation as alleged."

You don't think there was any supportive materials in what was sent back, that we didn't keep copies of, that could have added to the argument of what these people are trying to prove?

Dr. HATCHER. It might have been, sir, but we really don't know the content of the materials that were repatriated. Again, drawing from the European comparison, we have very detailed accounts of what was done at Dachau, at Auschwitz, even to the point of knowing people's names and the sort of treatment they were exposed to. We have large quantities of textual materials available in this country that deal with that issue. Again, comparing the large quantity of materials we have on that, with the paucity of material

that we have from the Far East, suggests that it was not a parallel situation.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you, Dr. Hatcher.

Mr. Solomon.

Mr. SOLOMON. Dr. Hatcher, the chairman has covered most of my questions.

I am really intrigued about this material that was packed up and returned to Japan. With all due respect to you, sir, and I do have a great deal of respect for you—there are an awful lot of good, conscientious, capable bureaucrats in the Federal Government—but there's an old saying that goes way back beyond World War II, that the definition of a bureaucrat is one who shoots the bull, passes the buck, and makes six copies of everything. I just find it hard to believe that we packed up all this information and sent it back and we don't have copies of it. Again, this is no criticism of you.

What do the records show? Who did we send it back to? Did we send it back to Douglas MacArthur?

Dr. HATCHER. No, sir. We returned it to the Government of Japan.

Mr. SOLOMON. The Government of Japan?

Dr. HATCHER. Yes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Do we have any indication of whether it still exists?

Dr. HATCHER. I'm sure it still exists. I mean, the Japanese are good record keepers.

What we had was literally the records of the Imperial Government that we confiscated in 1945 when we moved into Tokyo. I was there and it did pose some problem for a while because we suddenly stripped that Government of all its operating records. Then we looked around to pick out the good guys and the bad guys, and they commenced to perform the functions under the direction of General MacArthur's headquarters. But in most cases, there was very little of the bureaucrat's tool of trade that he needs to go with. We kept those records for 15 to 18 years in this country. Again, we had a number of scholars—I was not directly involved in it—but a number of scholars who looked at them and considered them to be pretty much run-of-the-mill, Government operating records. Some things, some cabinet-level materials, were probably of considerable interest. But again, the sheer problem of translating and getting them into a useable form, and the cost of doing it, just absolutely defeated all of our purposes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Again, it brings us back to one of the great injustices. During the Second World War we had a great many Japanese-American citizens who were interned, unnecessarily so. They were good, loyal American citizens and many of them who later fought with us during the war. It just seems to me that after the war was over, and if this went on for 18 years, to say we didn't have the expertise in this country to translate those records is almost incomprehensible.

Also, I would just like to point out, without criticizing Japan or the Japanese people, of course, today their country is one of our strongest links in our defense of the Free World, along with South Korea, and I have to say Taiwan, too, the Republic of China, the

65-338 O - 86 - 2

Philippines and so on. The Japanese people are not proud of that Second World War, as are the Germans are not proud of the Second World War.

It just seems to me, if those records still exist, because of the problems we have with those men that served in combat and were prisoners of war at Mukden, it just seems to me that if we made some effort to discuss this with the Japanese Government that perhaps we might get some of the information back. Certainly they have the expertise to decipher the information that was there. Perhaps we ought to make that effort, without bringing any criticism on anybody, just for the sole purpose of trying to help these people.

In my closing statement let me just ask you, do you or the Government have any idea of how many live POWs there are from Mukden today?

Dr. HATCHER. No, sir, I have no idea. The best records we have on this indicate 1,200 or 1,300 Americans——

Mr. SOLOMON. Still alive?

Dr. HATCHER. In the camps at that time. Now, how many of those survived and how many are still alive, it would be very difficult to pinpoint.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Chairman, I have nothing further.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. Solomon.

Mr. Robinson of Arkansas.

Mr. ROBINSON. Dr. Hatcher, I have two questions. Number one, what did you find in your review of the 200 pages of secondary material? Explain to me what is in those 200 pages that you consider secondary.

Dr. HATCHER. I have to explain, sir, first of all, that I'm certainly no expert in biological warfare, and except for having seen some of the source documents, I could not even begin to describe to you the nature of what appeared in those 200 pages. Most of it was of a highly scientific nature, discussing formulas and that sort of thing. It appears to take the form of about three or four different reports of varying length, most of which were prepared by scientists.

The bulk of what we found, aside from the one which appears to be the original document, the one document from General MacArthur's headquarters, the bulk of the other materials came out of our own laboratories over at Fort Detrick. They have been releaseable to the public for some time and have been a very popular item, so popular, in fact, that we receive regular requests for that material almost to the point of having it duplicated and ready to go.

But so far as telling you the actual content of the material, I can't do it. It has been some years since I've seen any part of it.

Mr. ROBINSON. How about duplicating that material and sending it to our committee? I would certainly like to have that.

Dr. HATCHER. Yes, we can do that. In fact, the historians have been quite interested in this area. There is a file right here in town and we can provide the committee with a complete set of that.

Mr. ROBINSON. The second question I have, are there records kept by agencies outside the U.S. Army today, Army records, outside of your supervision?

Dr. HATCHER. What was that again, sir?

Mr. ROBINSON. Are U.S. Army records kept by any other Government entity outside the supervision of your office?

Dr. HATCHER. Army records. That becomes a little complicated. We have some joint commands that are composed of Army, Navy, Air Force and other defense elements, that there are Army record-keeping activities in. But they would be primarily concerned with joint activities as opposed to purely Army activities.

Now, some good cases of this from the World War II period would be, of course, SCAP itself, the Far East Command, the Southwest Pacific Command, which were generally joint commands. By a preponderance of Army people in most of those commands, we became the housekeepers for those records. That's why I can comfortably discuss those joint records in the same language as Army records, because they are basically put up in Army formats, by Army people. But currently, no, I know of no situation where Army records would be managed or kept by activities outside of the Army.

Mr. ROBINSON. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you, Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Solomon had thrown sort of a question up in reference to the 200 pages. Do you still have that secondary material?

Dr. HATCHER. Oh, yes. That material is available. It's almost an exportable package, it's been so popular. So there's no problem. We can deliver that to the committee immediately.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Yes, could we have a package of that? We would appreciate that very much.

Let me ask you this. Of all these files that you were talking about—this is a very imaginative question, I guess—but of all the files that were sent back to the Government of Japan, what is the possibility of asking the Government of Japan to returning them to us?

Dr. HATCHER. I don't think it would be possible, knowing how——

Mr. APPLEGATE. It's possible to ask them.

Dr. HATCHER. Oh, it is certainly possible to ask them, but so far as the Government of Japan being able to, if they were inclined to, I don't think they would be able to, because I'm sure, when those files were returned to Japan in the late Fifties or early Sixties, that they immediately were decentralized, sent back to the Government agencies in Japan that would be interested in them. I doubt if it would be possible to even pull them together again.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Would you feel, to your best knowledge, that they would still have those records on file?

Dr. HATCHER. If they follow a system similar to ours, probably a very small part of them. I'm sure that the Japanese have a disposal system for records the same as we, where they would tend to weed out and destroy those things that were ephemeral or had no lasting value.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Upon request, do you think the Government of Japan would be willing to even make a stab at it, if there was any possible way to prove that they did not experiment on American POWs?

Dr. HATCHER. I really can't comment on that, sir, because I think that would have to be handled through the State Department.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Well, we'll mull that over.

Dr. Hatcher, thank you very much.

Dr. HATCHER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. APPLEGATE. The next witness that we will have to appear before the committee will be Mr. Frank James, who was a former prisoner of war in Muken. Mr. James, welcome to the committee. We're looking forward to hearing your testimony.

Mr. James, did you make a revision in your remarks?

Mr. JAMES. Yes, I did.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Do you have that available to us?

Mr. JAMES. What I did, the paragraphs that pertained to those particular comments were just removed, the paragraphs in their entirety.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Was that the only revision, on the first page, that you made.

Mr. JAMES. That's right. It was regarding the first page and on the second page that had to do with the ship.

STATEMENT OF FRANK JAMES, FORMER PRISONER OF WAR, CAMP MUKDEN, MANCHURIA

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of this subcommittee, I thank you for this opportunity to speak on the subject of the use of American prisoners of war as guinea pigs for the purpose of biological warfare research by the Japanese Army Unit 731. I was one of the POWs captured by the Japanese armed forces after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor in the Philippines during the early part of 1942.

Of the Americans captured, more than 1,000 were moved by ship in 1942 from the Philippines to Manchuria. This group was joined enroute in Korea by some British and Australian soldiers captured in Singapore. These men were used as slave laborers, working from daybreak to darkness, 7 days a week, in the Japanese factories located in Mukden.

I stated that these were captured Americans, not prisoners of war, since the Japanese did not recognize the standing of POWs until late 1943 and early 1944. As captives, we had not been reported by the Japanese as being alive or dead. During the period that we were held captives was when we were used as guinea pigs for the biological research Unit 731, which was located at Mukden as well as Harbin, their main office.

The evidence I wish to present today covers what I saw of the biological testing, my personal involvement with Unit 731, and the impact upon the health and welfare of American POWs, including myself.

Upon arrival at Mukden on November 11, 1942, we were met by a team of Japanese medical personnel wearing masks. They sprayed liquid into our faces and we were given injections. Prior to this, on the dock in Pusan, we had glass rods inserted in our rectums.

This group, 731, left the camp and returned only two more times, to my knowledge. The following 3-month period after our arrival in Mukden, no medication was issued to the sick POWs. They were placed in four so-called hospital wards, with the worst cases placed

in Ward 4, under the care of an Australian doctor, Major Brennan. Ward 4 had the highest death rate.

During this 3- or 4-month period, in the winter of 1942, some 300 American POWs—or captives, as they were regarded at that time—had died, out of the original group that had left Pusan.

Over 200 of the dead were stored above ground in an old wooden building during the winter months. As spring approached, the bodies began to thaw, so burial details were organized to thaw out the permafrost on the ground and dig graves for the dead. A team of Japanese medical personnel, Unit 731, arrived with an autopsy table for taking specimens. The table was installed in the wooden building where the dead were stored and two POWs were selected to work with this team. I was one of the two men.

Our duties were to lift the bodies off the tables, those bodies that had been selected. These were identified by a tag tied to their big toe which listed the POW's number. The Japanese then opened the bodies—the head, chest and stomach—and took out the desired specimens, which were placed into containers and marked with the POW's number. The specimens were taken away by the Japanese medical group.

Later, the group returned to Mukden again to perform what seemed to be a psycho-physical and anatomical examination on selected POWs. I was one of them.

The examinations included the following: upon entering the room, we were required to walk in footsteps that had been painted on the floor, which led to a desk, at which the Japanese medical personnel sat. He observed us as we walked. We were also asked questions about our national origin, and "American" was not an acceptable answer. It had to be Scotch, French, English or whatever the ethnic background was. I remember being asked was I getting enough steak, and I answered, "What's that?"

The medical person also measured my head, shoulders, arms and legs with calipers, and asked many questions about the medical history of my family.

The impact of being used as guinea pigs for biological weapons testing may never be known unless the documents that Unit 731 turned over to the armed forces—which was in exchange for immunity from prosecution at the War Crimes Tribunal—are released. Medical information pertaining to the health of each POW should be released to him, his doctor, and the Veterans' Administration.

In summation, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to be head before this august body. I can assure you that I am as patriotic an American as can be found in our wonderful United States of America. I have always taught my daughters to be thankful that our founding fathers had the foresight to create a lasting nation, founded upon the common man and ensuring his personal rights, including the pursuit of happiness.

Yet the evidence I have given today may sound vindictive. That is not my purpose, although I admit to feeling anger about what I have learned since the war about the dealings of the Army staff on this matter.

I request that whatever documents pertaining to myself and other POWs, and the research into the immune system, be released. I am specifically desirous of obtaining the photograph taken

of me by Unit 732 in early 1943. At that time, I had lost all my body hair, weighed about 80 pounds, and wore only a sweater. Above my head was a sign with my POW number, 1294.

I have repeatedly attempted to get included in my VA health records the diseases from which I suffered during my time as a POW, but I always get the same answer from the Army or the VA—no medical records exist. Sy, by God, if there is documentation about the health of an American POW with the Nukden number 1294, I want help to dig this information out. One thousand, two-hundred forty-three days of my life are a void in the official medical records.

To this day, I can still see those half-frozen, half-thawed intestines of the bodies that the Japanese medical people opened up on that autopsy table.

Also I would like to comment on the difficulty of establishing service connection with the VA for diseases occurring through my POW time. I have an 80 percent disability, all due to being medically retired from the Army in 1966. As of January of 1986, I have attempted to get service-connected status for beriberi. The Army has given me 10 percent for neuropathy. This is what they could find. They don't know where it comes from or anything. I have loss of feeling in my legs.

Scurvy, pellagra, dysentery, cerebral malaria, whatever diseases were involved in the experiments, the VA doesn't make any statement regarding these diseases, although they have addressed that I have emphysema, cardiovascular diseases, ateriosclerosis. I am a diabetic. I'm losing my eyesight. I have 20 percent disability for hearing. That's pretty good, I think. I have tried to keep a stiff upper lip. But I assure you, it's been a long, drawn-out struggle.

With the passage of the Public Law, 96–32, I think, the VA has basically not stated you are zero service-connected for it on what they found at that time that you had a physical examination. Now, what causes this over the years, right down at 80 pounds. Malnutrition? Sure. But the beriberi I had, it went from wet beriberi and progressed into dry beriberi. I had that in prison camp for 3 years. After I came out of the military, I was treated for 6 months at Fetcher General Hospital. They gave me a bottle of vitamin pills and sent me home for 30 days. I came back—and they had a diagram of me they would draw. I came back with no feelings from my elbows to my fingers, no feeling from my knees to my toes. I would smoke a cigarette and the flesh would burn on my fingers. I would smell it but not feel it. I couldn't step in the bathtub because I couldn't feel whether the water was hot or cold.

For 6 months they progressed in giving me vitamin pills. But then when I went for discharge, and I wrote beriberi on it, they called it neuropathy, which is the end result. That is the problem that the prisoner of war has.

There is no medical doctor willing to express an opinion that these had any effect on the body, which without a doubt it has. The diabetic, which was found in 1967. Arteriosclerosis, a long, drawn out item. Beriberi was nothing more than the tighening of the arteries, and the pains that we had constantly in our legs was the force of the blood trying to pass into these arteries that were contracted. It was the pain of that dry beriberi.

I thank you again for this opportunity, Mr. Chairman, to give my story.

[Prepared statement of Frank James appears on p. 46.]

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. James.

Mr. Solomon has a Foreign Affairs meeting that he must attend, so I am going to defer to him at this time.

Mr. SOLOMON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That's what makes you one of the best chairmen we have in this House.

Mr. James, let me just say that I really appreciate your testimony and your coming before us today. I certain can sympathize with you. We certainly hope that we're going to be able to get some results from this hearing.

Just so we will know, when you first came home and when you were mustered out, so to speak, you went to a VA office building and were assigned a "C" number, and from that, were you able to tell your situation and place in your VA record the problems that you developed while you were a prisoner of war? Or did these problems come later?

In other words, in your testimony you say on the last page that you repeatedly attempted to get included in the VA health care records the diseases from which you suffered. I'm just wondering how many of those appear in your record now and how many you're trying to get put in your record.

Mr. JAMES. The two that appear in my record is the malaria—and this was a story, too. The Army——

Mr. SOLOMON. Malaria?

Mr. JAMES. Malaria was included in the record, and neuropathy, which they defined as the lack of sensitivity of the nerves in my hands and feet.

As far as the processing out at Camp Atterberry in 1946, the VA was in the separation center and I had filled out the document they requested. I was never brought before a VA examination until 1966. That was the first examination that the VA attempted.

The VA gave me 10-percent disability for malaria—or 10 percent for the neuropathy and 0 percent for the malaria. Then the Army sent a letter to the public health in Kokomo, Indiana, a little town of 30,000, stating I had four-plus syphilis. I was required to report to the public health. I did. They gave me a shot of biosalvasane, told me to come back next week, and they gave me a shot of bizmuth, and I must take this for the next year, that I have four-plus syphilis. The Army wanted me as a recruiter, so the Army got me, a recruiter. I couldn't stay home in Kokomo, Indiana and take shots for syphilis for a year and have that hanging over me.

So the Army put me thrugh at Atterberry, 30 days on penicillin. At the end of that I came out and went on duty. Six months later I had a check up, back in the VD ward I went again, another 30 days course of penicillin. Well, the third time they attempted that, I told the doctor "I'm running through this; what the hell is it?" He says, "Well, on the Kline test, the similarity of malaria and syphilis is the same." So they're saying I've got syphilis. Well, this doctor gave me a statement saying that the low titer serology was due to malaria, therefore, from then on out when it came up. But it cleared after some 10 or 15 years.

Then I got a letter of award from the VA stating 10 percent. It also stated in there beriberi, not service connected, which caused neuropathy. But they're not interested in what caused it. It's what they found. The doctors treated me for 6 months with vitamin B. What do they treat vitamin B to? A lack of vitamin B is beriberi. But still, it wasn't in the records that the Army presented to the VA.

We were required, when we came to the depot at Manila, on the way back from the prisoner of war camp, we signed a statement by the Army stating we would not tell before our experiences or conditions, what happened to us in the prison camp, before any audiences or the newspapers, under threat of court-martial. This was an attempt to harmonize the American public to get to like the Japanese. They didn't want us to go back and stir things up.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. James, did you go back into the Army?

Mr. JAMES. I did. I went back in the Army and stayed in for——

Mr. SOLOMON. So you were mustered out and then re-enlisted?

Mr. JAMES. I was mustered out, yes. I reenlisted. I could either go in the Army or stay at home and take the VD shots. So I went back in. I originally didn't intend to go back, but that's what happened.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. James, I could ask a lot more questions. I am sure the chairman will explore it. But it might be helpful to this committee, and the possible legislation that we might develop, if we could have access to your VA medical records, it might give us examples that we could follow a little bit later on. If you feel like giving us that permission, we might use that to explore future legislation.

Mr. JAMES. My claim number is C-1068-9611. They're the VA records at the regional office, San Francisco.

Mr. SOLOMON. We would then have your permission?

Mr. JAMES. Yes, you have.

Mr. SOLOMON. What is your disability right now?

Mr. JAMES. 80 percent.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. James, I really do appreciate——

Mr. JAMES. I had to quit work about 6 months ago. After I retired from the Army I got a degree in accounting and I went into the audit business. I had to quit about 6 months ago because my memory is slipping. An auditor with a slipping memory, nobody wants him around.

I applied for 100 percent but got no answer to that.

Mr. SOLOMON. Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for yielding ahead of time, too. I appreciate it. I apologize for having to leave and will try to get back.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. Solomon.

Let me ask you this, Mr. James. Your percent of disability now is 80 percent. How long has it been 80.? At what point, say, did you reach 60 percent?

Mr. JAMES. When I came out of the Army on medical retirement, I came out with 70 percent disability from the Army. The VA picked it up in 1966. So exactly what the Army said, the VA picked it up, which is arteriosclerosis, hearing loss, diabetic, emphysema, and bursitis. It got down to the fine point of a scar on my abdomen. It was zero rated, service connected.

But during the time after World War II, my medical history—these were what they could find in examinations and so forth, what led up to it.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You mentioned in your statement that you have requested so many times to getting documents pertaining to yourself and other POWs and the research into the immune system. You skipped over that part in part of your testimony.

Mr. JAMES. Yes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. What have you done——

Mr. JAMES. Well, really, I haven't done anything other than, you know, through the VA and through the Army. I wrote to the Army to get my period in time of war, a statement in relationship to my disabilities. Then I stated I had this, this and this during the prisoner of war times which contributed to this. Of course, they came back and said there was no medical records showing you had any of those things; therefore, beriberi doesn't have anything to do with your heart. Then I went back to the VA three times.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Let me ask you this. You want to get your records. Do you think they are still available, or do you think they have been destroyed along with the other 99.5 percent?

Mr. JAMES. I think they're with the 99.5 percent, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You think they've been destroyed?

Mr. JAMES. Sure.

Mr. APPLEGATE. What I will do——

Mr. JAMES. Unless they sent it back to Japan. I was on Japanese TV once before, interviewed at my home in California by the Japanese. I will write to the Oshidi after I complete this and will let the Japanese look into it. I can say "The ball's over in your court again. The Army says you've got the records. How about giving us some help from Japan?"

Mr. APPLEGATE. What we could do, I would be very happy to make an attempt to try to find out myself if those records exist, with a little bit of information, the Social Security number and some other things. I would be happy to try to find that out for you.

So you could submit that to me, right?

Mr. JAMES. Yes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You give me that information and I would be happy to try for you. I won't promise you that I'll be able to come up with any results for you, but you can be assured that I will try. With perseverance, maybe we'll find that record. If it has been destroyed, there is not much we can do.

Let me ask you this. Have you spent any time in a Veterans' Administration hospital?

Mr. JAMES. Yes, I have. I had open heart surgery.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Where was that?

Mr. JAMES. At the Palo Alto hospital. They gave me a "roto-rooter" job on the major arteries.

Mr. APPLEGATE. And when was that?

Mr. JAMES. That was in 1981.

Mr. APPLEGATE. How are you feeling now from that?

Mr. JAMES. I can't do much. I try to think young, but everybody says I'm an old chap.

Mr. Chairman, I want to mention something. I have here in my hand a copy of the diary by Major Peaty, who was the senior rank-

ing British officer in charge the British and Australian groups. He mentioned that on February 15, 1942, the Japanese were cutting the bodies up. This is an extract of his dairy which he maintained throughout the POW camp.

Mr. Rodriquez will mention some of the blood tests which were performed. They are very thoroughly documented in this diary, of the taking of 200 c.c.'s of blood from each individual and leaving with it. There were various tests that they would come in and perform on us, and then come back again because the tests were inconclusive, things such as that.

Mr. APPLEGATE. What particular procedures in the autopsies caused you to believe that the dead men had been deliberately injected or infected with bacteria or germs? What was different from what you thought would be just a normal autopsy?

Mr. JAMES. They didn't open everybody. There were particular numbers of POWs they wanted to open. This is where I mentioned the tags. There were certain POW numbers that they wanted. It wasn't on everybody.

Mr. APPLEGATE. So your supposition was that the reason they did that was because you figured those were bodies that, while they were living, had been infected?

Mr. JAMES. Had been in part of a test while they were living, and now they were following up and doing the tests before they buried them.

Mr. APPLEGATE. But that was only supposition on your part?

Mr. JAMES. That's only a supposition on my part, sure. But they did put them in containers with the POW number marking on it.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You had mentioned that when you arrived at Mukden on November 11 you were met by a team of people wearing masks, and they sprayed liquid into your face and gave you injections. Do you think that was just a normal procedure for delousing, or do you think that was——

Mr. JAMES. No, I don't, because there were not the regular medical personnel which stayed around our camp. They were outside medical personnel.

Mr. APPLEGATE. They were not the regular medical personnel?

Mr. JAMES. No.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Who were they?

Mr. JAMES. They were outside personnel, Japanese personnel.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Military people?

Mr. JAMES. Military-types, Army.

Mr. APPLEGATE. But they were medical people?

Mr. JAMES. They were medical people.

Mr. APPLEGATE. So your supposition again is that you figure they were specialists in perhaps biological——

Mr. JAMES. If in the camp this was brought into the open, that this was going on, many of these things that had occurred, then logically there would be no way of knowing. The same way as saying what diseases were being used for this and that, that would only be known if the records were available, because they surely, definitely would be—The Australian doctor, Major Brennan, states very specifically that none of the Australians—there weren't that many, maybe 15 or 20—were used as guinea pigs. But he didn't—

nobody I think asked him if any of the other Americans had been used.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You submitted your statement here today. Did you want your entire statement submitted for the record, or did you want the fourth and the sixth paragraphs deleted?

Mr. JAMES. I wanted those deleted.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You want those deleted.

Mr. JAMES. That's right.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You don't want any reference to those?

Mr. JAMES. No.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I commend you, Mr. James. You have served your country, and you mention in here that you're trying to assure me that you are as patriotic an American as can be found. I don't think you have to assure anybody, sir. You served your country and that goes above and beyond. You fought and you were captured, and you were taken in as a captive or prisoner of war, however they wanted to term it. You were subjected to demeaning and inhuman treatment while you were captured, I'm sure.

So I just want to say that I appreciate your appearance here and your testimony. I will do all that I can to try to find out if your record is available. If it is—and I will be more than happy to check with the Army to see if it is. I will also be happy to check with the Government in Japan to see if they can check into the records again, to see if it's available.

But I appreciate your testimony. It has been most enlightening. I thank you for appearing before the committee.

Let me say that counsel to the Chair does have a question he wants to throw out to you.

Mr. MOON. It is not as much a question as it is a statement, hopefully reassuring to you, about beriberi and malaria and those other things.

You could very well, and probably, did have malnutrition and beriberi while you were in the camp. There is sometimes a breakdown in communications the way the VA tells you what they have done on your case. Now, granted, they may not find any official records of beriberi.

But you didn't have any symptoms when you got out, for two or three reasons. If you had, they would have granted you service connection for it. Number two, you probably couldn't have reenlisted right away. But I assure you, the operation of the law in the VA, if you ever have any symptoms from malnutrition or beriberi or malaria, they will grant you benefits if they're disabling. You will have no problem, even though at this time they say it's not service connected. Mainly it's because they have no records that you have anything from it. But once you have the symptoms, rest assured, they will honor it.

Mr. JAMES. They call it another name. Anything to do with the nerves in the body is neuropathy, isn't that right?

Mr. MOON. Well, I can't discuss your case at length. I understand you do have about 14 or 15 service-connected disabilities.

Mr. JAMES. I do.

Mr. MOON. And the VA measures the extent of how disabling they are. If they do get worse, you'll be paid for them. I'm just trying to reassure you of that.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you, Mr. Moon.

Again, thank you, Mr. James. If you will give me the information that I need, my aide, Tim Sechrist, will get that information from you. Thank you very much.

Mr. JAMES. Fine. Thank you.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Our next witness will be Mr. Greg Rodriquez, Jr. Mr. Rodriquez, if you would come forward to the desk. Mr. Rodriquez is a son of a former POW who spent time at Camp Mukden. We appreciate having you before the committee and are looking forward to hearing your testimony.

Again, we have your revised document here and it will be submitted to the record. If you wish to summarize it or read it—it isn't very long—I will leave that entirely up to you.

STATEMENT OF GREG RODRIQUEZ, JR.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Mr. Chairman and honored members of the committee, first let me express my gratitude for the opportunity to appear today.

My interest in the survivors of Mukden is based on an abiding concern for justice. I am the son of Mukden POW 768, a man who has been denied justice repeatedly as he sought to be a good soldier and citizen and serve his country.

In 1978, I began to research the Mukden experience. I set ut to document the chaos of the compensation process that former prisoners of war must endure. I was told at that time by Government officials that there were no records of the Mukden camps.

Although I set out to document the chaos, I uncovered a calloused and culpable conspiracy designed to seal the fate of the Mukden survivors and break their will. The conspiracy I spoke of was the granting of immunity from prosecution of the war criminal Ishii.

At this time I would like to insert into my testimony the Missoulian editorial of February 24, 1986, which says, in part: "It is time the country came to the help of these tragic men.

Until it does, their unrecognized suffering and service is like a shadow over the honor of this land.

They number very few, and that's part of the rub. In the mass of veterans, the ex-POWs are a small blip. The VA has no special procedures for handling them."

Representative Pat Williams has introduced bills which would provide automatic compensation. About this, the Missoulian editorial says "Williams' bills cut cleanly through the bureaucratic bog. Never mind the technical requirements that vets are supposed to meet to win disability. The former POWs, by virtue of their hardship service alone, will be given 60 percent disability compensation."

These bills are simple justice. The eligible former POWs are dying off. There aren't many left. It won't cost this nation much to grant them what their sacrifices earned. These bills are simple justice, and must be passed.

Let me address the compensation issue further. In 1985, a thesis by Peggy Tadej, who is now an Urban Fellow in the District of Co-

lumbia Mayor's office, found that of the 490 former prisoners of the Japanese contacted, more than 200 complained about compensation problems.

Tadej correctly concludes about the Gramm-Rudman legislation. "From a political point of view, it is essential that these families push through the political barriers holding them from receiving their well-deserved compensation. However, President Reagan's proposed budget suggests eliminating all benefits for veterans with disability ratings below 30 percent and ending dependents allowances for those with ratings below 50 percent. This would, indeed, reduce the Federal outlays. Veteran beneficiaries would lose 56 percent of all their cash benefits—currently between $66 and $122 per month. That's based on the CBO 1985 report. All POWs that are not receiving 30 percent will be affected by these changes. This has caused great fear among former prisoners of war who aren't receiving over 60 percent."

In 1982 I appeared before an oversight committee with W.W. "Pappy" Whelchel, a survivor of Mukden. Pappy was able to describe in detail the experimentation he was subjected to by the Japanese. He became embittered before his death and he told me about Government officials. "If they weren't there, they don't care."

When he died in 1984, he was found to have cancer and 13 other disorders. Both he and his widow felt that his conditions were a result of the Japanese experiments. His widow felt that he was inadequately compensated for his suffering.

In 1983 I published a thesis for my master's degree in behavioral science. The thesis topic was the compensation issue and the conspiracy. However, as I have stated earlier, I have an abiding concern for these survivors, not just a passing academic interest.

I would now like to present evidence which I have uncovered through my research over the past 8 years. I have thousands of dollars invested in this research and hundreds of pages of formerly top secret documents. Like Diogenes, I have searched the world for an honest man. I believe in Dr. Murray Sanders I have found the man who speaks the truth about Unit 731 and the conspiracy to cover up those war crimes committed by Ishii.

From 1941 on, the Americans who served in the Pacific have been victims of a series of logical, illusory explanations or L.I.E.S. This tissue of lies has now been torn and the truth can now be seen by those who seek it.

My father and the Americans who were captured were listed as MIA and their bodies were delivered into the hands of the enemy. Forces loyal to the war criminal Hirohito had just what Ishii and United 731 wanted—American guinea pigs.

Because this hearing is concerned with the problems of compensation and not with the experiments of Unit 731, I will limit my testimony regarding the experiments.

I was contacted in 1982 by a physician who was an OSS officer during World War II. He went behind enemy lines and interrogated captured Japanese medical personnel about biological warfare. He presented his evidence in 1947 to the War Crimes Commission.

This physician spent the last years of his life assembling a manuscript about Unit 731. This manuscript is quite revealing and re-

mains unpublished. When he died, I was given the documents he had assembled and I have waited to reveal some of the data at the appropriate time.

As I stated before, the men of Mukden have been told there are no records to assist them in their quest for compensation. Just last week I uncovered about 200 pages of records about Mukden which were declassified.

Let me now quote from records which I have which state "In 1944 the BKA—" that's the bacteriological unit "—succeeded in cultivating pests which were applied to Manchurian and several American citizens captured during the war." A second document from the Investigative Division states, "This agent is making every attempt to ascertain the connection between hospitals in Japan who experimented on POWs with the Ishii unit at Harbin, and the Kwantung Army Stables at Shinkio. To date, this agent has received coimmunication from various sources which reflect that nine hospitals in and around Tokyo were conducting experiments on POWs. It has also been brought to the attention of this agent that one organization in northern Japan, operated by a doctor named Ariyama of Niigata Medical College, was conducting experiments in artificial blood. Western Army headquarters at Fukuoka were conducting experiments on prisoner patients that followed no definite pattern."

Mr. Chairman, one member of Unit 731, R. Naito, went on to continue research on artificial blood after he founded the Green Cross organization. The Green Cross was recently granted patents to market artificial blood products in the USA. Who says Japanese war crimes don't pay?

I would also like to point out that I have his confession here in which he states that Ishii wanted—Naito states that Ishii wanted to be at Harbin so he would have ready access to POWs. This Naito was the spy who was planted with Dr. Murray Sanders when Murray landed in Japan.

Mr. Chairman, time and again I have found documents which show that records have been kept about Americans. These include 8,000 slides taken from the bodies of Americans experimented on at Mukden. If released, these records might assist those who seek compensation.

In the dairy by Dr. Peaty I have the dates that the autopsies were done, as well as various medical experiments. I would be happy to share that, if asked.

The Americans who survived the Japanese have been treated not as patriots, but as pariahs. Of the 16,000 who returned, only 4,600 were even given physical examinations.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I'm sorry. How many?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Of the 16,000 who returned, only 4,600 were given physical examinations.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Sixteen thousand from——

Mr. RODRIQUEZ [continuing]. From the Pacific Theater. I'm speaking about the whole Pacific Theater here.

The Government that abandoned them sealed their fate by fabricating the logical illusory explanation that there are no records. The question of adequate compensation can only be addressed by the passage of legislation introduced by Representative Williams.

Only his bill provides for automatic compensation based on the presumed disabilities caused by the Mukden experience.

Mr. Chairman, the most difficult thing to overcome is the will not to believe. The horrible facts of abandonment, sell out, cover up and lies, leave me with little faith in most of our leaders. The question that remains is who will watch over those who have been chosen to watch over us.

I come before this committee armed only with the facts and the truth. I come to you today in a cause as sacred as the cause of liberty. I come to you today in the cause of humanity.

The facts are that there was a cover up, and the truth is that today men still suffer. The question you must answer is whether justice in America will prevail for these men who have been so tragically treated.

Thank you for this opportunity to appear and address the issue of adequate compensation.

[Prepared statement of Greg Rodriquez, Jr. appears on p. 48.]

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. Rodriquez, for your statement.

I cannot verify all of the statements that you make. However, I know that you put a great deal of investigatory work into it and you believe everything that you have submitted to us, and it may or may not be totally factual. I don't know, because what you state to me, much is new. But it certainly is some very strong charges.

Could you fill me in a little bit on the Green Cross organization?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. The Green Cross I believe is the largest pharmaceutical organization in Japan at this time. In fact, they are building a building in Los Angeles. As I said, they specialize in artificial blood products.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Who owns that?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Naito did, but he died.

Mr. APPLEGATE. But it's a privately-owned corporation?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Do you think it has relationships to those who served in World War II who took part in experimentations?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Well, Naito himself was a member of Unit 731, as I stated. Also, many of them went into that because it was a good way to apply what they had learned.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Was that part of the BBC?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. I helped the British do the film, and it was not only a part of that film, but it has also been a part of the Tokyo Broadcasting System films which have come previously.

Mr. APPLEGATE. On Pat Williams' bill, which would provide automatic compensation, which I believe it would be an automatic 60 percent——

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. That is correct.

Mr. APPLEGATE [continuing]. Of all those, do we know how many are living today?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. No. The Government says they don't have any records.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I think we determined by one report that there was about 1,600 or so that returned from Mukden.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Oh, yes. We know how many returned. We don't know how many are alive today.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Of that number—I don't have the figure before me of how many were Americans—but we don't know how many are alive today, so we don't have a breakdown of how many are receiving 60 percent or more now who wouldn't be eligible under the bill, or are under 60 percent.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Well, if they are already receiving 60 percent, this would not prohibit them from having the 60 percent added. It would depend. This would be automatic compensation designed to bring them up to the point so that their widows, who until now have been cut off—I can give you specific names and examples of——

Mr. APPLEGATE. You're interpreting the bill as being a 60 percent add on?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. To bring it up to 100 percent. If they already have some, it would not be counted as that. If they're getting 60 percent, the 60 percent would add on and bring it up to 100 percent.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Then the bill would say this compensation would be automatic for any survivor or any returnee that was in any POW experimental camp, or any camp?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. No, sir. There are two bills. One is 2412, which provides compensation for Korean prisoners of war and Japanese prisoners of war, and civilians, and 2411, which provides compensation for European prisoners of war.

You see, the problem with the past legislation is that it presumes disability but does not provide compensation, testing each man's experience on a case-by-case thing. That's cost effective; we save money that way. But is it just?

Mr. APPLEGATE. I have not had a chance to go over the bill line by line, and there has been no hearings set, although we have passed a bill which was referred to earlier which would affect 4 areas for prisoners of war.

I think you made a statement—although it is not in here—that you said it off the record. But Peggy Tadej—is that her name?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Peggy Tadej, T-a-d-e-j.

Mr. APPLEGATE [continuing]. Correctly concludes that "from a political point of view it is essential that these families push through the political barriers holding them from receiving their well-deserved compensation." But in there somewhere you had mentioned the fact that, if I understand, that Gramm-Rudman had an effect on the reduction of some of these benefits.

Did you state that?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. This was in 1985 when the study was done, and the responses that were received were at that time. So yes, it was based upon that. There was a great fear generated among families of prisoners of war, particularly those who have fought to get, say, up to 30 percent, when the Reagan administration said "Hey, we're going to do away with this."

Mr. APPLEGATE. Well, I know there were some statements made. But let me say we fought hard to make sure that the compensation and pension benefits were protected from Gramm-Rudman, so that they are not affected by Gramm-Rudman. Counsel for the minority will want to ask a question in a minute concerning another part of your statement there.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Sir, may I point out something here?

In this diary, which was kept by Dr. Peaty—Frank James had referred to this—he referring to February 15, 1943, when it talks about the autopsies being performed. Two days before that it says "about 10 Japanese medical officers and 20 other ranks arrived today to investigate the cause of a large number of deaths." Then, the next day, vaccinations for small pox. Then the next day was the autopsies. This Japanese medical team kept coming back. The third time, as Frank mentioned, was on June 4 of 1943. The third medical investigation started. Anti-dysentery innoculation, roll call outdoors for the first time, diarrhea steadily increasing. Then Dr. Peaty says—and I quote from the June 23, 1943—"I hope that the men get through and can make known the scandal of the lack of medical care which was responsible for the deaths of 15 percent of the American prisoners of war in this camp."

Now, earlier he referred to the report by the Government which does say that there were 1575 prisoners of war. I did find a copy in the War Crimes file the Red Cross investigation of the Mukden camp, and in it the Red Cross representative says that, after investigating this, he "wished" he "were a POW."

This was just a cover up. The Japanese told him that they had eight medical doctors working for the prisoners, also medical personnel and former medical aides. What they did was they took those slides, took the tissues from the autopsies and made 8,000 slides. The 1947 Hill-Victor report shows that there were 8,000 slides delivered to the U.S. Government from the Japanese pathologists who did the autopsies. Those slides, I believe, are at Dugway now. If we could get those slides—and I would urge your committee to try to get them; they've been very slippery—if you can get those slides, you might be able to tie a specific POW number to a specific slide.

There is proof of the experiments at Mukden. Dr. Sanders told me that he was aware of the experiments at Mukden, but not until after he cut the deal. He said he would have never cut the deal to grant Ishii immunity from prosecution if he had known Americans were experimented on. But he said that an American officer of a high rank, "whom I pledged to never reveal his name," had told him that the Americans at Mukden were guinea pigs.

I don't think we can get any closer to a smoking gun than that.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Let me ask you this. Have you heard of the American Prisoners of War Information Bureau?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I have a report here: Prisoner of War Camps in areas other than the four principal islands of Japan, Liaison and Research Branch, American Prisoners of War Information Bureau, Captain James Norwood and Captain Emily Shek, dated 31, 1946. In it they point out that in the first year or so Camp Mukden didn't come off too well, but then, supposedly, it moved into getting back to what you were saying, into the Hoten POW camp. It sounds pretty much like what the Red Cross was saying, like it's a wonderful place to be——

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. "A model camp", it says.

Mr. APPLEGATE. According to the report issued here, that's pretty much what they state—and I'm not going to go through all of these

things if you don't have it. But in just talking about medical facilities, it says the medical equipment equaled that of the Japanese Army branch hospital. There was a considerable quantity of Red Cross medical supplies, and that the prisoners had been vaccinated against small pox and innoculations for dysentery, cholera and different things of that nature. It sounds like a great place.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. It does. In fact, the Red Cross report says the "men are free". In fact, I have used the document you are referring to there as I have gone around the country interviewing men of Mukden. They become very angry and aggitated when I read to them what our Government says in that report. I found it quite effective in getting them to remember some of the details of how "good" it was there.

Mr. APPLEGATE. This is not a Government report, though, as I understand.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. That's on the camp. Yes, I know what you're talking about.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Well, I was just wondering if you were aware of that, which I was sure you were.

Let me defer to counsel for the minority.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Rodriquez, all of us, of course, would want to commend your father for the great service to his country, so any questions that I might ask certainly are not intended to reflect adversely upon his service.

You made a statement I think, sir, that only 4,000 of 16,000 POWs were examined when they returned and prior to the time they were discharged. Was that your testimony?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes. I believe, if you look at the Public Law 95-479 study, page 57, you will find that substantiated.

Mr. WILSON. I have to say to you, sir, that I think the Veterans' Administration and or the military, although they might not have conducted the kind of complete examination that a former POW might have wanted, would dispute that statement and say that almost all of those people were, in fact, examined prior to the time they were discharged.

On page 2 of your testimony you make reference to a thesis by another individual, to which the chairman also alluded. Did you research the statistics in that paragraph yourself, or did you just accept the thesis of this lady?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes. This was the second thesis that was done at the behest of the president of Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington, following up the study that I had done. So I am very familiar with this.

Mr. WILSON. I would say to you, Mr. Rodriquez, that the dependency allowance for veterans drawing compensation was reduced from 50 percent to 30 percent by the Congress in about 1978 or 1979, during a previous administration, and was opposed by that administration. Did you know that?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. No, sir.

Mr. WILSON. When the budget, which is referred to in this particular paragraph, was submitted to the Congress, there was a suggestion that the dependency allowance be restored to 50 percent cases from 30 percent. Are you aware of the fact that the Congress

did not agree with that and that that dependency allowance suggestion was not, in fact, passed into law.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. As I stated, I think this is based on 1985 and I think I made that clear.

Mr. WILSON. There is a statement made here that this would reduce benefits by 56 percent for the individuals affected. I would suggest to you that that's a totally incorrect conclusion, and I would suggest to you that you might want to research that yourself again and then correct the record.

You also make a statement that these benefits would be reduced between $66 and $122. I would suggest to you that those are also incorrect figures and it is not nearly that much in the individual average case.

There is also a statement made that all POWs that are not receiving 30 percent will be affected by these changes, and it is inferred they would be affected adversely. Many, many POW's are not drawing compensation at all. Would you not agree that they would not be adversely affected if they weren't drawing compensation in the first place?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Those who aren't receiving any service certainly can't be hurt by cuts, that's true.

Mr. WILSON. Then the statement that all POWs that are not receiving 30 percent will be affected by these changes is really not a correct statement, is it? Would that not be correct?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. That's correct.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Rodriquez, are you sure of your facts when you say that President Reagan's administration suggested reducing or eliminating all benefits for veterans with disability ratings below 30 percent?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. That was based upon material that I had read in a veterans' organization magazine.

Mr. WILSON. Again, I would suggest, sir, that you might want to research that again because I believe that to be an incorrect statement, also.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Mr. Rodriquez, could you tell me what veterans' magazine it was that you saw that? Do you recall?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. I believe that it was in the Western States chapter, a newsletter—it was a newsletter rather than a magazine—of the American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor. I can't specifically state the page number, et cetera, no, sir.

Mr. APPLEGATE. The former POWs of Bataan and Corregidor?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes. I cannot say specifically at this point—I think you are straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, because the issue is that we need the automatic compensation which would provide compensation, without the people having to jump through the various hoops.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Would you suppose that most of the prisoners of war are receiving at least 60 percent now?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. I think the Public Law 95-479 statement would answer that. I didn't not bring that with me this morning.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Counsel for the chair would like to ask a question.

Mr. MOON. I would just like to clarify your personal position on these bills. Are you saying that every POW should be entitled to 60 percent compensation, whether he has a disability or not, without a showing of disability?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. I don't think that the average industrial impairment—is that what it's called—the average industrial impairment——

Mr. MOON. No, it is the existence of a disability caused by service. Are you saying we should ignore the service-connected origin and pay a man 60 percent based on what type of service he had rather than any disability coming from that service?

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. I am saying that the studies have shown there are disabilities which result from being a prisoner of war, and that we should not only presume disabilities but provide them compensation for that as service-connected, yes.

Mr. MOON. In effect, you're saying it should be a bonus for the quality of service rather than a showing of disability.

Thank you.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Mr. Rodriquez, thank you again for appearing before the committee. I appreciate having your testimony. We will be taking a long look at that, as well as the other testimony. This, of course, is an oversight hearing. We are not hearing it based on any specific legislation.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Yes, sir.

May I ask one question?

Mr. APPLEGATE. Sure.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. Will you be appealing to the Japanese to release the records which were found?

Mr. APPLEGATE. Well, yes. We will consider doing that. I am going to be writing on behalf of Mr. James specifically. It could be that I would then ask for all of the records.

If the Government would request all of the records to be returned, so that we may be able to make a copy of it. I would think the Japanese Government would be willing to do that in order to redeem themselves from the accusations and allegations that have been made.

Mr. RODRIQUEZ. The original report by Lieutenant Colonel Sanders stated that a duplicate set of records, which had been believed were destroyed, were found at Niagata, and they were given to the Department of the Army. I can provide you with that, if you want. That should be a good lead.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Okay. Thank you again, Mr. Rodriquez.

Our last witness today will be Mr. William Triplett. Mr. Triplett is an author and has written and published a book which is titled "Flowering of the Bamboo", which I think has reference to our subject matter today.

We appreciate your appearing before the committee, Mr. Triplett.

STATEMENT OF WILIAM TRIPLETT

Mr. TRIPLETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Some of the things that I wanted to cover in my statement here have already been said in different part by other people. But since

my statement is brief, I would like to read through it because it does come at the subject at hand from a different angle and a different perspective.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is William Triplett and I have been asked to come here today because of a book I researched for the better part of 7 years and which has been published already. The book's title, as you noted, is "Flowering of the Bamboo" and it is the nonfiction account of the 1948 Tokyo Imperial Bank murders.

My book deals extensively with the probable involvement of former members of the Japanese Imperial Army's 731 Unit in these murders. However, a great deal of my research—especially declassified Army documents—on the 731 Unit was not reproduced in "Flowering of the Bamboo" because the bank crime itself was the principal focus of my book.

But as I demonstrated clearly and unequivocally in my book, through the support of various materials, including declassified military documents: One, that 731 Unit bacteriological warfare camps existed is without question.

Two, that the 731 Unit conducted bacteriological warfare experiments on human beings is without question, and three, that U.S. military authorities of the occupation knew the above facts when dealing with former 731 Unit members is also indisputable.

I would like to say, however, that my purpose here is not to point any fingers and say who covered up what. You can look at the documents, if you wish, and judge for yourself.

But, more to the point, there are veterans here who have told of how they haven't gotten any decent VA treatment because the VA can't recognize or identify the disease or problem. What I would like to state for the record today is that the U.S. Government has held records, classified records, which, if they had been provided to the VA, would have helped VA physicians probably in their diagnoses of these veterans.

These are some of the records here, declassified documents from various DOD archives I have brought with me today. They chronicle in some detail a wide range of 731 Unit medical experiments on humans, with specifics on things like what bacteria was used, how much was used, how it was administered, how long did the victim take to develop symptoms, and whether the victim died, recovered, or was killed.

But as extensive as these documents I have with me are, they are really only the preliminary interrogations of the 731 scientists and physicians. As Dr. Norbert Fell, one of the senior American physicians involved in the interrogations, writes in one of the documents, "The human experiments were extensive enough to reach scientific conclusions. The methods of infection I mentioned were thoroughly explored and the results and conclusions are in no way based on imagination." These documents, which are dated mid- to late-1947, are only the very beginning of the massive information that 731 Unit members turned over to the U.S. Army.

For example—and there are two brief things I would like to read to you from this—first is from another interrogation report by Dr. Fell. "It was disclosed that there were available approximately 8,000 slides representing pathological sections derived from more

than 200 human cases of disease caused by various bacteriological warfare agents. These had been concealed in temples and buried in the mountains of southern Japan. The pathologist who performed or directed all of this work is engaged at the present time in recovering this material, photographing the slides, and preparing a complete report in English, with descriptions of the slides, laboratory protocols, and case histories. This report will be made available about the end of August."

Furthermore, from another formerly top secret report, "Members of the Japanese bacteriological warfare group are cooperating with American occupation authorities by writing books, reports and working on slides of tissues from autopsies of humans and animals who had been subjected to bacteriological warfare experiments. General Ishii is writing a treatise embracing his 20 years experience in all phases of bacteriological warfare."

These slides and these reports, these so-called books, all of which hold the exhaustive and minute details of the human experiments, have yet to be released. These details I believe would provide untold help for the VA physicians to determine precisely what diseases and bacteria these veterans may have been exposed to. They would also reveal the full extent of just what the 731 Unit did for 10 years in Manchuria, which in large part still remains a mystery.

My ultimate point is that if anybody is going to see any sort of justice or even proper health care out of this whole affair, then all these medical reports and interrogation transcripts and treatises and specimen slides, et cetera, that the DOD continues to hold, must be made available.

Thank you.

[Prepared statement of William Triplett appears on p. 52.]

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. Triplett. I appreciate your testimony.

I don't really know that I have anything of a specific nature, except to say that, in looking and listening, you mentioned about declassified military documents have already demonstrated clearly and unequivocally in my book, through the support of various materials. You talk about bacteriological warfare experiments on human beings as being without question, and I'm sure that it happened. I don't know--Well, I can't be sure if I don't know. The rumors have been very strong.

But the point I'm trying to make is that you don't specify in any area in here about any Americans.

Mr. TRIPLETT. Okay. There is, from the information I have seen, only one mention of American involvement. And if you think about things that happened there, and the way they happened, a lot of what you have to work with is not only what was said in these documents but also what was not said.

But in this same paper that I quoted just a while ago--and it really starts here—this report is from the War Crimes Office, Judge Advocate General in the U.S. War Department, written when the State, War and Navy Departments are formulating their positions for the deal that is about to go through. Mention is made here "It should be kept in mind that there is a remote possibility that the independent investigation conducted by the Soviets in the Mukden area may have already disclosed evidence that American

prisoners of war were used for experimental purposes of a BW nature and that they lost their lives as a result of these experiments."

Mr. APPLEGATE. What report is that?

Mr. TRIPLETT. This comes from the U.S. War Department Judge Advocate General's Office. It starts with memoranda from the various departments that were involved in this—the State Department specifically, the War Department, and Navy Department. The part that I just quoted to you was from an appendix to that memorandum, and it is not identified in any other way other than an appendix to the State Department's memorandum in this decisionmaking process.

Mr. APPLEGATE. May I have a copy of those for the record, or for our files?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Certainly. You're welcome to copies of any and all of these things.

Mr. APPLEGATE. One other thing. You say, "What I would like to state for the record today is that the U.S. Government has held records, classified records, which if they had been provided to the VA would have helped VA physicians in their diagnosis of these veterans."

Mr. TRIPLETT. Yes, sir.

Mr. APPLEGATE. How do you know that there are classified records?

Mr. TRIPLETT. They were classified. They were held and released only after——

Mr. APPLEGATE. Oh, they are released?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Yes.

Mr. APPLEGATE. So they are not classified now?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Oh, no. They are now declassified. I'm sorry. I should have said formerly classified.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I just thought perhaps there were other classified records.

Had they had these available, it would have helped the VA physicians to be able to determine what?

Mr. TRIPLETT. To work with things. Now, I'm not a physician so I couldn't tell you what they could have deduced from this. But these are fairly detailed, at least in stating, as I said, what sort of bacteria was used, how it was administered, what sort of symptoms developed, how long were the symptoms sustained. In various cases you can read through these things, if you like.

Mr. APPLEGATE. They could tell from that document——

Mr. TRIPLETT [continuing]. The specific type of experiment that was done.

Now, how deeply detailed it goes, I can't judge that because, as I said, I'm not a physician. But there is stuff here, no question about it.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Could it tell the time and place of the experiments or anything like that?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Some identify them, some don't. Such as here, on tick encephalitis. In May 1943, lumberjacks in the Bontanko area of Manchuria became ill with fever and a paralyzing disease. During May and June the disease is most prevalent." So what happens is, quite by accident, the 731 people heard of this outbreak of

tick encephalitis that was working in that area. They then dispatched people to start working in that area to see what could be learned from tick encephalitis and then started incorporating tick encephalitis into their own experiments into Harbin.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Was there anything relative to Mukden?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Yes, I was getting to that. I have it here. I don't know if I can lay my hands on it right away because there are so many. But there is one that I have seen that details anthrax experiments that were carried out at Mukden.

Mr. APPLEGATE. So what you have there is part of the five-tenths of 1 percent?

Mr. TRIPLETT. I assume so, yes, sir.

Mr. APPLEGATE. How much stuff do you have there?

Mr. TRIPLETT. I have not counted it page by page. I would say it's on the order of probably 150 pages, maybe a little more.

Mr. APPLEGATE. You just have the one set?

Mr. TRIPLETT. Right. I am perfectly willing to leave all this material in the care of the committee if they would like to copy it all.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Yes, if you would. I wonder if you could let us have that and we will xerox it.

Mr. TRIPLETT. Certainly. I should tell you that some of these are barely—they were xeroxed from what I assume were very poor originals, and some are unreadable. But with a little bit of patience and time, some things come clear, though others will forever remain lost because the xerox quality was poor. But these originals I have over here all came from the Army's Dugway Proving Ground, and if you have any way of getting to them to actually provide you the originals, they may be more legible on those accounts, I don't know. But again, all this I'm willing to leave with you if you would like to copy it.

Mr. APPLEGATE. What we will do with those—they won't be made a part of the record itself, but we will keep them in our files for reference as we need them, because I think they will play a very important role in the future.

I would defer to counsel for the minority.

Mr. WILSON. Mr. Chairman, I don't have any questions, but there was a Colonel Flynn who was referred to in earlier testimony. That is really General John Flynn, who is Chairman of the Administrator's Advisory Committee on POWs and a very distinguished individual who was a prisoner of war in Vietnam for about 6 or 7 years.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hammerschmidt had a statement that he would like to have submitted for the record.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Without objection.

[Prepared statement of Hon. John Paul Hammerschmidt appears on p. 56.]

Mr. WILSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. APPLEGATE. Thank you very much, Mr. Triplett, for appearing before the committee.

Mr. TRIPLETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee.

Mr. APPLEGATE. I thank each and every one of you for appearing today, for those who have stayed throughout the hearing to listen,

and those who have testified before the committee. Thank you very much.

The committee is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:55 a.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

APPENDIX

STATEMENT BY

DOCTOR JOHN H. HATCHER, PH.D.

CHIEF, ARMY RECORDS MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

BEFORE THE

HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

COMPENSATION, PENSION AND INSURANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN MANCHURIA

17 September 1986

(17 Mar 86)

Biographical Sketch John Henry Hatcher, USA, BGE, MA, PhD

John Henry Hatcher was born 10 December 1924 in Southeastern Kentucky hill country and enlisted in the Signal Corps shortly after his 18th birthday in 1943. Trained as an enlisted meteorologist and later as an Army Air Corps combat crewmember, he spent World War II in the Pacific. From occupation duty in Japan, he joined the Berlin Airlift in 1948 and along with brief combat tours in Korea and Vietnam, spent 19 of the next 23 years in Europe -- mostly in Germany.

He retired from active duty with the United States Air Force in 1971 having completed his academic education entirely on active duty. His bachelorate is from the University of Omaha, 1962; masters from Hardin-Simmons, 1963, and, doctorate from the University of Cincinnati in 1967. He has held teaching and faculty assignments with Hardin-Simmons; the University of Cincinnati; the University of Maryland in Europe; Kultus Minesterium, Baden-Wuerttemberg Komburg; and is presently Adjunct Professor with American University Graduate School. He has numerous publications in academic, archival, historical and military subjects. In 1968, the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem conferred Knight of Grace rank on him in recognition of his work in the Kinderlift sequel to the Berlin Airlift.

Following retirement at Stuttgart and a yearlong teaching appointment with the University of Maryland, he returned to the Unitred States in 1972 to complete post-doctoral work in the National Archives of the United States. In 1974, he accepted a position with The Adjutant General as Archivist for Southeast Asian military records. During the next two years he directed a massive project to bring some 63,000 cubic feet of Vietnam War records under effective intellectual and physical control. In 1976, he shuttled between Bangkok and Washington to direct the retrieval of American military records of the Army's Thailand experience as US Forces withdrew from the Southeast Asian mainland. Two years later, he took up residence in Ankara, Turkey, to claim and remove US Army-interest records on the disestablishment of CENTO.

In 1978, he executed a special project designed to restore control over about 1,000,000 cubic feet of retired Army records located in the 14 Federal Records Centers. The next year, he became Chief of Army Declassification Operations for national defense and security classified information and for 3 years was charged with carrying out the Presidential mandates of Executive Orders 11652, 12065 and 12356. This resulted in the declassification review and subsequent public release of about 100 million pages of previously classified information including the entire combat record of the Vietnam War.

In 1982, Dr Hatcher was appointed Chief of Army Records Management and the Archivist of the Army. Heading a staff of 30 senior analysts, he began a massive overhaul of The Army Records Management Program. The Civilian Career Management Program was expanded to cover approximately 400 positions throughout the Army. He initiated a project to "schedule" the Army's 8000+ operating ADP systems; began developmental work on MARKS to replace TAFFS; and introduced a quality of life dimension into Army records to protect the rights and interests of the soldier both during and after his uniformed career.

Presently on the staff of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Information Management, Dr. Hatcher resides with his wife, Hildegard, in northern Virginia's Fairfax County.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE:

I AM JOHN H. HATCHER, CHIEF OF ARMY RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND ARCHIVIST OF THE ARMY. I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO APPEAR BEFORE YOU THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE EFFORTS THE ARMY HAS UNDERTAKEN TO DOCUMENT ALLEGATIONS OF BIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTATION UPON AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR HELD CAPTIVE AT CAMP MUKDEN, MANCHURIA DURING WORLD WAR II AND TO DESCRIBE ANY RELEVANT DOCUMENTS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE IN ARMY ARCHIVES.

BEFORE ATTEMPTING A DIRECT ANSWER TO THE ISSUE UNDER HEARING, IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO LOOK BRIEFLY AT THE WAY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY KEEPS RECORDS. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENT, THE WAR DEPARTMENT, HAS AN EXCELLENT RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM. IT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY THE ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES AS THE BEST RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IN MUCH THE SAME MANNER THAT THE ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES PRESIDES OVER THE RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE ARCHIVIST OF THE ARMY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT OF THE INFORMATION BY WHICH THE ARMY OPERATES.

THIS IN NO WAY IMPLIES THAT EITHER THE ARCHIVIST OF TH UNITED STATES OR THE ARCHIVIST OF THE ARMY IS A FUNCTIONAL EXPERT IN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF ANY OF THE RECORDS THAT HE MANAGES. AND IT IS OFTEN A GREAT TEMPTATION FOR ARCHIVISTS AND RECORDS MANAGERS TO IMAGINE THAT THEY ARE EXPERTS BY SIMPLE ASSOCIATION WITH THE RECORDS THAT THEY MANAGE--A TEMPTATION WHICH IF YIELDED TO IS OPEN INVITATION TO DISASTER. THE LAW REQUIRES THEM TO BE PRESENT AT THE CREATION AND FINAL DISPOSITION, BUT THEIR ROLES ARE MINIMAL AT BEST IN BETWEEN. THIS THEN PLACES THE ARCHIVIST OR RECORDS MANAGER IN A POSITION TO KNOW WHY THE RECORDS WERE CREATED, WHO CREATED AND USED THEM, AND THEIR FINAL DISPOSITION. DISPOSITION INVOLVES THEIR RETIRED OR INACTIVE STAGES LEADING TO DESTRUCTION OR PERMANENT ACCESSIONING INTO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE ARMY CURRENTLY REQUIRES ABOUT FIVE MILLION CUBIC FEET OF RECORDS TO MANAGE ITSELF EACH YEAR. ONE CUBIC FOOT EQUATES TO 3000 PAGES OF TEXT. THIS FIGURE HAS BEEN CONSTANT, PLUS OR MINUS A COUPLE OF HUNDRED THOUSAND FEET, SINCE 1946 WHEN THE MEASUREMENT WAS FIRST TAKEN. THERE ARE TWO MILLION CUBIC FEET OF RECORD IN ARMY OFFICES AT ALL TIMES; WITH ANOTHER ONE MILLION CUBIC FEET CREATED AND

DESTROYED IN ARMY OFFICES; ONE MILLION CUBIC FEET OF INACTIVE RECORDS IN ARMY HOLDING AREAS; AND, ONE MILLION CUBIC FEET OF RETIRED RECORDS IN THE 14 REPOSITORIES OF THE FEDERAL RECORDS CENTER SYSTEM. THESE ARE MACRO-FIGURES; HOWEVER, THEY REPRESENT AN AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT. ARMY RECORDS HAVE VIRTUALLY STOOD STILL IN THE FACE OF A PAPER EXPLOSION IN THE RECORDS OF GOVERNMENT. DURING THE SAME 40-YEAR PERIOD, 1946-86, THE ARMY COLLECTION OF RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES INCREASED FROM 39,000 TO 260,000 CUBIC FEET, i.e., A NET GROWTH OF ABOUT ONE-QUARTER MILLION CUBIC FEET AS THE SOLE RESIDUE OF SOME 40 MILLION CUBIC FEET OF RECORDS CREATED AND DESTROYED DURING THAT SAME PERIOD. THIS IS THE GREAT STRENGTH OF THE ARMY RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM--THE ABILITY TO WEED OUT AND DESTROY RECORDS AS THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED. THE ARMY ACTUALLY DESTROYS OVER TIME 99.5% OF ALL THE RECORDS IT CREATES.

THE ARMY CONTROLS ITS RECORDS BY A VIGOROUS SCHEDULING PROGRAM. A DECISION IS MADE AT THE TIME A RECORD IS CREATED AS TO ITS COMPLETE LIFECYCLE. THIS IS A JOINT DETERMINATION IN WHICH THE ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES CASTS THE DECIDING VOTE AS TO HOW LONG A RECORD WILL BE PRESERVED. THE ARMY CURRENTLY CREATES RECORDS IN ABOUT 3000 FILE

CATEGORIES. EACH HAS ITS APPROVED SCHEDULE. SCHEDULES VARY FROM AS LITTLE AS "WHEN NO LONGER REQUIRED" WHICH CONCEIVABLY COULD BE ONLY A FEW MINUTES TO AS LONG AS "PERMANENT" WHICH IS IN FACT THE LIFE OF THE REPUBLIC! EXCEPT FOR HOUSEKEEPING AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES COMMON TO ALL ACTIVITIES, MISSION FILES CAN BE IDENTIFIED WITH SPECIFIC PROPONENCIES. THE ARMY SYSTEM CONTROLS BOTH VOLUME AND IDENTIFICATION OF CREATOR THROUGHOUT THE LIFECYCLE AND BEYOND. KNOWLEDGE OF THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF RECORDS, INCLUDING DESTRUCTION , IS ESSENTIAL TO GOOD RECORDS MANAGEMENT. OTHERWISE, RECORDS SEARCHES COULD CONTINUE ENDLESSLY FOR RECORDS WHICH IN FACT NO LONGER EXIST.

THE ARMY IDENTIFIES ITS RECORDS FUNCTIONALLY AND SUBJECTIVELY. THIS IN LARGE PART IDENTIFIES BOTH CONTENT OF THE RECORD OR FILE AND ITS CREATOR THROUGH A REGULATORY NUMBERING SCHEME THAT IS SO WELL KNOWN TO THE RANK AND FILE AS PRACTICALLY TO CONSTITUTE A SECOND LANGUAGE. CONSEQUENTLY, ITS RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM IS NO MYSTERY TO ITS PERSONNEL. KNOWLEDGE OF ITS CONSTRUCTION AND CHARACTERISTICS, DESPITE MASSIVE VOLUME, MAKES SEARCHES OF ARMY RECORDS RELATIVELY SIMPLE AND NORMALLY CONCLUSIVE.

SEARCHING FOR RECORDS PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING IS NO EXCEPTION OR PARTICULAR CHALLENGE. ALLEGATIONS OF BIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTATION UPON AMERICANS AND OTHER NATIONALS HELD PRISONER OF WAR IN MANCHURIA DURING WORLD WAR II HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SPECULATION SINCE AT LEAST 1956 AND RECENTLY CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF THE TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY INDUSTRY IN BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND UNITED KINGDOM. EVEN THE JAPANESE, HAVE PUBLISHED SOME ACCOUNTS ON IT THOUGH I DO NOT BELIEVE ANY OF THEM ARE AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH. FROM ALL OF THESE SOURCES, THIS SUBJECT HAS FIRED THE POPULAR IMAGINATION. WE HAVE SEARCHED THE PROPER PLACES IN THE ARMY RECORD KEEPING SYSTEM THROUGH THE YEARS FOR DATA TO SUPPORT THIS CAUSE AND APPEAR TO HAVE TURNED UP SOME 200 PAGES OF SECONDARY MATERIAL. THIS APPEARS TO BE THE TOTAL ARMY HOLDINGS. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE ANY DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO CORROBORATE THE ALLEGATIONS THAT ARE THE SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN PRIMARY MATERIALS IN THE CAPTURED ENEMY RECORDS THAT WERE SEIZED DURING THE SCAP OCCUPATION OF JAPAN AND BROUGHT TO THE UNITED STATES AS WERE THE CAPTURED NAZI MATERIALS. ASIAN LANGUAGES PROVED TO BE SUCH A FORMIDABLE BARRIER TO THE USE OF THE JAPANESE MATERIALS THAT THEY WERE REPATRIATED IN THE LATE 1950'S TO JAPAN WITHOUT COPIES BEING RETAINED AS WAS DONE WITH THE GERMAN MATERIALS. BASED UPON THE MANNER IN WHICH RECORDS PERTAINING TO AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR WERE GENERATED BY MULTIPLE SOURCES AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II, CATALOGED AND PRESERVED IN THE ARCHIVES, THE ABSENCE OF SUCH RECORDS SUGGESTS THAT AMERICANS WERE NOT SUBJECTED TO BIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTATION AS ALLEGED.

I WILL BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

TESTIMONY OF FRANK JAMES
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance
September 17, 1986

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Subcommittee, thank you for the opportunity to speak on the subject of the use of American prisoners of war as guinea pigs for the purpose of biological warfare research by the Japanese Army Unit 731. I was one of these POWs captured by the Japanese Armed Forces after the fall of Bataan and Corregidor in the Philippines during the early part of 1942.

Of the Americans captured, 1,500 were moved by ship in 1942 from the Philippines to Manchuria. This group was joined enroute in Korea by some British and ~~American~~ AUSTRALIAN soldiers captured in Singapore. These men were used as slave laborers working from daybreak to darkness, seven days a week, in the Japanese factories located in Mukden.

I stated that these were "captured" Americans, not prisoners of war, since the Japanese did not recognize the standing of POWs until late 1943 and early 1944. As captives, we had not been reported by the Japanese as being alive or dead. During the period that we were held as "captives" was when we were used as guinea pigs for biological warfare research by Unit 731, which was located in Mukden and Harbin, Manchuria.

Upon arrival at Mukden on November 11, 1942, we were met by a team of medical personnel wearing masks. They sprayed liquid into our faces and we were given injections. This group (Unit 731) left the camp and returned only two more times, to my knowledge.

The following three month period after our arrival in Mukden, no medication was issued to the sick POWs. They were placed in four so-called hospital wards, with the worst cases placed in Ward 4, under the care of an Australian doctor, Major Brennan. Ward 4 had the highest death rate.

During this three- or four-month period in the winter of 1942, some 300 American POWs (or, captives, as they were regarded), had died, out of the original group that left Pusan.

Over 200 of the dead at Mukden were stored above ground in an old wooden building during the winter months. As spring approached, the bodies began to thaw, so burial details were organized to thaw out the ~~prima~~ PERMA frost on the ground and dig graves for the dead. A team of Japanese medical personnel (Unit 731) arrived with an autopsy table for taking specimens. The table was installed in the wooden building where the dead were stored and two POWs were selected to work with the team.

I was one of those two men.

Our duties were to lift the bodies off the tables the bodies that had been selected. These had been identified by a tag tied to the big toe, which listed the POW's number. The Japanese then opened the bodies (head, chest and stomach) and took out the desired specimens, which were placed into containers and marked with the POW's number. The specimens were taken away by the Japanese medical group.

Later, the group returned to Mukden again to perform what seemed to be psycho-physical and anatomical examinations on selected POWs. I was one of them.

The exams included the following: Upon entering the room, we were required to walk in footprints that had been painted on the floor, which led to a desk, at which a Japanese medical person sat. He observed us as we walked. We were also asked questions about our national origin and "American" was not accepted as an answer. It had to be "Scot," or "French" or "English" or whatever the ethnic background was. I remember being asked whether I was getting enough steak, and I answered, "What's that?"

The medical person also measured my head, shoulders, arms and legs with calipers, and asked many questions about the medical history of my family.

The impact of being used as a guinea pig for biological weapons testing may never be known unless the documents that Unit 731 turned over to the American Occupation Forces under General MacArthur -- in exchange for immunity from prosecution at the War Crimes Tribunal -- are released. Medical information pertaining to the health of each POW should be released to him, his doctor and the Veterans Administration.

In summation, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to be heard before this august body. I can assure you that I am as patriotic an American as can be found in our wonderful United States of America. I have always taught my daughters to be thankful that our founding fathers had the foresight to create a lasting nation, founded upon the common man and ensuring his personal rights, including the pursuit of happiness.

Yet the evidence I have given today might sound vindictive. That is not my purpose, although I admit to feeling anger about what I have learned since the war about the dealings of MacArthur and his staff on this matter.

I request that whatever documents pertaining to myself and other POWs, and the research into the immune system, be released. I am specifically desirous of obtaining the photograph taken of me by Unit 731, in early 1943. At that time, I had lost all body hair, weighed about 80 pounds and wore only a sweater. Above my head was a sign with my POW number - 1294.

I have repeatedly attempted to get included in my VA health records the diseases from which I suffered during my time as a POW, but I always get the same answer from the Army or the VA: <u>No medical evidence exists!!</u> So, by God, if there is documentation about the health of an American POW with the Mukden number of 1294, I want help to dig this information out. One thousand two hundred and forty-three days of my life are a void in the official medical records.

To this day, I can still see those half-frozen, half-thawed intestines of the bodies that the Japanese medical personnel opened on that autopsy table.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to speak.

TESTIMONY OF GREG RODRIQUEZ, JR.
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION, PENSION, AND INSURANCE
SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

Mr. Chairman and honored members of the committee, first let me express my gratitude for the opportunity to appear today.

My interest in the survivors of Mukden is based on abiding concern for justice. I am the son of Mukden POW 768, a man who has been denied justice repeatedly as he sought to be a good soldier and serve his country.

In 1978 I began to research the Mukden experience. I set out to document the choas of the compensation process that former prisoners of war must endure. I was told at that time by government officials that there were "no records of the Mukden camps."

Although I set out to document the chaos I uncovered, a calloused and culpable conspiracy designed to seal the fate of the Mukden survivors and break their will. The conspiracy I spoke of was the granting of immunity from prosecution of the war criminal Ishii.

At this time I would like to insert into my testimony the Missoulian editorial of February 24, 1986 (Exhibit 1) which says in part: "It's time the country came to the help of these tragic men . . . They number very few, and that's part of the rub. In the mass of veterans, the ex-POWS are a small blip. The VA has no special procedures for handling them.

Williams' bills cut cleanly through the bureaucratic bog. Never mind the technical requirements that vets are supposed to meet to win disability, the former POWS BY VIRTUE OF THEIR HARDSHIP SERVICE ALONE will be given 60 percent disability compensation.

These bills are simple justice. The eligible former POWS are dying off. There aren't many left. It won't cost this nation much to grant them what their sacrifices earned.

These bill are simple justice -- and must be passed.

Let me address the compensation issue further.

In 1985 a thesis by Peggy Tadej, who is now an Urban Fellow in the D.C. Mayor's Office, found that of the 490 former prisoners of the Japanese contacted more than 200 complained about compensation problems.

Tadej correctly concludes "from a political point of view it is essential that these families push through the political barriers holding them from receiving their well-deserved compensation. However, President Reagan's proposed budget suggests eliminating all benefits for veterans with disability ratings below 30 percent, and ending dependents allowances for those with ratings below 50 percent. This would indeed reduce the federal outlays. Veteran beneficiaries would lose 56 percent of all their cash benefits -- currently between $66 and $122 per month. (CBO, 1985). All POWs that are not receiving 30% will be affected by these changes.

In 1982 I appeared before an oversight committee with W.W. "Pappy" Whelchel, a survivor of Mukden. "Pappy" was able to describe in detail the experimentation he was subjected to by the Japanese. He became embittered before his death and told me about government officials "If they weren't there, they don't care".

When he died in 1984 he was found to have cancer and 13 other disorders. Both he and his widow felt that his conditions were a result of the Japanese experiments. His widow felt that he was inadequately compensated for his suffering.

In 1983 I published a thesis for my Masters degree in Behavioral Science. The thesis topic was the compensation issue and the conspiracy. However, as I have stated earlier I have an abiding concern for these survivors, not just a passing academic interest.

I would now like to present evidence which I have uncovered through my research over the past eight years. I have thousands of dollars invested in this research. Like Diogenis I have searched the world for an honest man. I believe in Dr. Murray Sanders I have found the man who speaks the truth about Unit 731 and the conspiracy to cover up those war crimes committed by Ishii.

From 1941 on the Americans who served in the Pacific have

been victims of a series of logical illusory explanations or LIES. This tissue of lies has now been torn and the truth can be seen by those who seek it.

The initial lie was one designed to perpetuate the myth that they were not abandoned. The American forces were told by General Mac Arthur that thousands of troops were on the way.

But the fleet that sailed was a fleet of ghost ships filled with phantom cargo. Help never came.

The men wanted to believe this logical illusory explanation. Indeed the songs of the Battalin' Bastards of Bataan and stories of the ships that never came are still topics of conversation whenever the survivors gather together.

My father and the Americans who were captured were listed as MIA and their bodies were delivered into the hands of the enemy. Forces loyal to the war criminal Hirohito had just what Ishii and Unit 731 wanted -- American Guniea pigs.

Because this hearing is concerned with the problems of compensation and not the with experiments of Unit 731 I will limit my testimony regarding the experiments.

I was contacted in 1982 by a physician who was an OSS during WW II. He went behind enemy lines and interrogated captured Japanese medical personnel about Biological Warfare. He presented his evidence in 1947 to the War Crimes Commission.

This physicians spent the last years of his life assembling a manuscript about Unit 731. This manuscript is quite revealing and remains unpublished.

When he died I was given the documents he had assembled and I have waited to reveal some of the data at the appropriate time.

As I have stated before the men of Mukden have been told "there are no records" to assist them in their quest for compensation.

Let me now quote from records which I have which state "In 1944, the B.K.A. succeeded in cultivating pests which was applied to Manchurian and several American citizens captured during the war". A second document from the Investigative division states

"This agent is making every attempt to ascertain the connection between hospitals in Japan who experimented on POW's with the ISHII unit HARBIN, and the KWANTUNG Army Stables in SHINKIO. To date, this agent has received communication from various sources which reflect that nine (9) hospitals in and around Tokyo were conducting experiments on POWs. It has also been brought to the attention of this agent that one organization in Northern Japan, operated by a doctor named ARIYAMA of Niigata Medical College was conducting experiments in artificial blood -- Western Army Headquarters at Fukuoka were conducting experiments on prisoner patients that followed no definite pattern.

Mr. Chairman, one member of Unit 731 R. Naito, went on to continue research on artificial blood after he founded the Green Cross organization. The Green Cross was recently granted patents to market artificial blood products in the U.S.A. Who says Japanese war crimes don't pay?

Mr. Chairman, time and time again I have found documents which show that records have been kept about Americians. These include the 8,000 slides taken from the bodies of Americans experimented on at Mukden. If released these records might assist those who seek compensation.

The Americans who survived the Japanese have been treated not as patriots but as pariahs.

The government that abandoned them sealed their fate by fabricating the logical illusory explanation that there are no records.

The question of adequate compensation can only be addressed by the passage of legislation introduced by Representative Williams. Only his bill provides for automatic compensation based on the presumed disabilities caused by the Mukden experience.

Mr. Chairman, the most difficult thing to overcome is the will not to believe. The horrible facts of abandonment, sell out, cover-up and LIES leave me with little faith in our leaders. The question that remains is who will watch over those who have been chosen to watch over us.

I come before this committee armed only with the facts and the truth. I come to you today in a cause as sacred as the cause of liberty. I come to you today, in the cause of humanity!

The facts are that there was a cover-up and the truth is that today men still suffer. The question you must answer is whether justice in America will prevail for these tragic men.

Thank you for this opportunity to appear and address the issue of adequate compensation.

William Triplett
3133 Connecticut Ave, NW, 801
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-462-8591

17 September 1986

To: The House Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance of the House Veterans Affairs Committee

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is William Triplett, and I have been asked to come here today because of a book I researched for the better part of seven years, and which was published last January. The book's title is FLOWERING OF THE BAMBOO, and it is the nonfiction account of the 1948 Tokyo Imperial Bank murders. My book deals extensively with the probable involvement of former members of the Japanese Imperial Army's 731 Unit in these murders. However, a great deal of my research -- especially declassified Army documents -- on the 731 Unit was not reproduced in FLOWERING OF THE BAMBOO because the bank crime itself was the principal focus of my book.

As I have already demonstrated clearly and unequivocally in my book through the support of various material, including declassified military documents:

1. That 731 Unit bacteriological warfare camps existed

is without question.

2. That the 731 Unit conducted bacteriological warfare experiments on human beings is without question, and -

3. That U.S. military authorities of the Occupation knew the above two facts when dealing with former 731 Unit members is also indisputable.

I'd like to say, however, that my purpose here is not to point any fingers and say who covered up what. You can look at the documents, if you wish, and judge for yourself. But more to the point, there are veterans here who have told of how they haven't gotten any decent VA treatment because the VA can't recognize or identify the disease or problem. What I'd like to state for the record today is that the U.S. government has held records -- classified records -- which, if they'd been provided to the VA, would have helped VA physicians in their diagnoses of these veterans. These are some of the records here -- declassified documents from various DOD Archive -- I have brought with me today. They chronicle in some detail a wide range of 731 Unit medical experiments on humans, with specifics on things like what bacteria was used, how much was used, how it was administered, how long did the victim take to develop symtoms, and whether the victim died, recovered, or was killed.

But extensive as these documents I have with me are, they are really only the preliminary interrogations of the 731 scientists and physicians. As Doctor Norbert Fell, one of the senior American physicians involved in the interrogations, writes in one of the documents, "The human experiments were extensive enough to reach scientific conclusions. The methods of infection I mentioned were thoroughly explored and the results and conclusions are in no way based on imagination." These documents, which are dated mid-to-late 1947, are only the very beginning of the massive information that 731 Unit members turned over to the U.S. Army.

For example,

(Quote Fell document, re: slides)

Furthermore, from a formerly Top Secret report, I quote,

(SWNCC, point 4)

These slides, these reports, these so-called books -- all of which hold the extensive, minute details of the human experiments -- have yet to be released. These details would provide untold help for VA physicians to determine precisely what diseases and bacteria these veterans may have been exposed to. They would also reveal the full extent of just what the 731 Unit did for ten years in Manchuria -- which

in large parts still remains a mystery. My ultimate point is that if anybody is going to see any sort of justice or even proper health care out of this whole affair, then all these medical reports and interrogation transcripts and specimen slides the DOD continues to hold must be made available.

I swear that the above statements are, to the best of my knowledge, true and factual.

William Triplett
author, FLOWERING OF THE BAMBOO
Freelance journalist

REMARKS BY THE HONORABLE
JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

THIS SUBCOMMITTEE HAS LONG HAD A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE COMPENSATION PROBLEMS OF FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR. WE HAVE RECOGNIZED THE DIFFICULTIES MANY FORMER POW'S HAVE IN ESTABLISHING CLAIMS.

THE MANY YEARS WHICH HAVE PASSED SINCE 1945 MAY COMPLICATE THE INQUIRY, BUT IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO GIVE THIS ISSUE AS MUCH CONSIDERATION AS THE AVAILABLE EVIDENCE ALLOWS.

FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR ESPECIALLY DESERVE EVERY REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO ESTABLISH CLAIMS FOR SERVICE CONNECTED DISABILITIES, AND I WILL BE MOST INTERESTED TO HEAR TODAY'S TESTIMONY.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

TESTIMONY OF PEGGY TADEJ
BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMPENSATION, PENSION, AND INSURANCE
SEPTEMBER 17, 1986

Mr. Chairman and honored members of the committee, I come here today not as an expert, the only true experts are those who live with former Prisoners of War (POWs). These families have been subjected on a daily basis to the individualized problems faced by POWs. I am here to relate what I found to be true while gathering data for my research on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD).

PTSD is a condition suffered by many who do not even realize to the extent they have it or deny they may still be suffering. This condition is related to a stressor and followed by the psychological traumatic event that is outside the range of usual happenings or events. The stress producing the syndrome would invoke significant symptoms of stress in most people. Frequently their is a physical component of the trauma that involves direct damage to the central nervous system. This disorder is apparently more severe and longer lasting when the stressor is of the human design, such as malnutrition. Recent studies of former military POWs which were used to support the passage of H.R. 97-37 showed that malnutrition suffered by POWs causes premature death rates. Further, these studies show that one year of captivity is equivalent to 4 years of normal aging. The mortality rate and heart conditions continue to plaque the POWs.

Through the process of interviews, phone calls, the results of a questionnaire, and correspondence from POWs and their wives, I have complied information I would like to share with you. Most of the information gathered has gone literally unrecorded. From the interviews I have conducted comes an oral history of the problems as seen by the former prisoners and their families.

My study examines the psychological effects left on American Ex-POWs of World War II and their families. In it, I attempted to examine reasons for the silence on the part of the survivor, his spouse and family, and the government to help make sense of the experience and bring understanding to this abnormal behavior.

Up to now, the men have remained silent and therefore the government has done nothing. I called this the "Legacy of Silence". They remained silent so as not to endanger there chances of staying on active duty. Those who did chose to leave the military were mustered out with wholly inadequate medical examinations. Many of the men who remained in the service after returning home, did so because they realized their medical problems resulting from imprisonment would require constant

attention and they expected to receive it as an active duty member of the military.

One POW explained his attempts to recreate his medical history to avoid later problems with the Veterans Administration (VA) at retirement. He contacted a camp doctor to verify his medical prognosis. The doctor had been at the same camp and after doing all he could for this POW he left him to die under the building in the cool mud. However, the POW's friends rescued him. But today, the doctor - perhaps due to the embarrassment - could not remember his case. The doctor did admit though that this POW had been under his care in the camp.

The pattern of illness that each of these men have are virtually undocumented in their VA records. The PTSD, heart problems, stomach problems, and skin irritations are more common among POWs. The major complaint was finding an American medical doctor who understood the residuals of malnutrition and extreme stress. The men who were fortunate enough to be treated by knowledgeable medical professionals found it made a significant difference.

My questionnaire was mailed to 490 American Defenders of Bataan Corridor Western States Chapter organization. Over 200 were returned, which is a 40% return. Only 156 were used to run the statistical data due to incorrect or incomplete responses.

Attached for your review is a copy of the questionnaire and the statistical results. I would like to point out several conclusions which can be drawn from the study:

The majority were in good health at the time of capture or imprisonment.

The average time spent in the POW camps was 40 months.

While 93% of POWs were in need of some type of medical treatment; only 16% were fortunate enough to receive any type of medical assistance.

Those who were most severely mistreated were the least likely to request medical assistance upon their return to the U.S.A. and even today continue to have adjustment problems.

If the administration's proposed budget cuts were implemented POWs with a disability rating of 30% or less would loose their benefits. My sample shows that the majority received less than 30% disability.

Most of the men were in more than one camp, the camps listed were in China, Japan, Philippines, Korea, Mukden, Taiwan, Burma, Europe, and Java. There were 23 Mukden survivors this is 30% of my total sample. From the Mukden survivors sampled 14 received 30% and less for disability and 9 were rated 60% and above. For the breakdown see the chart below:

DISABILITY RATING OF MUKDEN SURVIVORS

Disability Rating	Number Receiving Disability
0%	6
10%	5
20%	1
30%	2
60%	2
70%	2
80%	1
100%	4
	23

All of the Mukden survivors suffered any number of these diseases: malaria, berri berri, dysentery, pellagra, pneumonia, ulcers, dengue fever, T.B., scurvy, jaundice, lung infections. Yet, none of those responding have received disability for these diseases.

Those receiving disability are not being compensated for their POW experience. Quoting from one of the questionnaires that enclosed his VA claim letter. "Heart disease, bronchitis, residuals of chest pain, and arthritis, left shoulder were not shown by the evidence of record, and therefore, cannot be service-connected."

Because there are "no records" than presumptions or the conditions resulting from these diseases need to be compensated for even as they show up later in life and are recognized as a result of their experience as a POW. Medical research backs the complaints of reoccurring fevers from malaria. These individuals have had an extraordinary experience, one that is not related to any other. They deserve all your considerations.

Factors that enabled the men to survive were categorized as: faith, family, hope, humor, and anger. Although these factors pulled them through the prison camp experience, they have no correlation in aiding the POW in their adjustment today. Being alienated by foe, the county they served and the family they instill with the "Legacy of Silence", has left the POW and their families feeling victimized. The former POWs and their families have been left with the impression that the Government doesn't care, causing a psychological illusion of abandonment. As one women commented "This is absolutely the first time anyone has cared enough to ask a wife of a POW how they are coping. We need help too! 'Walking away' is not solving or helping this situation."

If Government is of the people, by the people and for the people, then let these questionnaires be an indication of what the people in justice expect from you today. Please hear their cry for our support in helping them receive the compensation due.

In concluding there are two reasons for the need for Congressman Williams proposed bill:

1. The psychological effect that adequate Compensation would have on the POW's and their families, and allow them the treatment and health care they are entitled to.

2. The second result the passage of this legislation would be to provide the financial security in overcoming the deficiency in monies needed to survive and help alleviate the "family strife". Thereby ending the "Legacy of Silence".

EVALUATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire was mailed to 490 American Defenders of Bataan Corridor Western States Chaper organization. Over 200 were returned, which is a 40% return. Only 156 were used to run the statisical data due to incorrect or incomplete responses.

HISTORY OF IMPRISONMENT

1. What was your rank at the time of captivity?

EM	PFT	SPEC	STG	LT	CAPT	CORP	OTH
5%	37.2%	9.9%	26.4%	7.4%	3.3%	9.1%	1.7%

2. What was the last grade of school completed?

8th grade	8.5%
8 - 10th grade	14.6%
11 - 12th grade	41.5%
1 year of college	10 %
2 years college	7.7%
3 - 4 years college	10 %
more	7.7%

3. What was the general state of health on the day you were first captured?

I was not sick, injured, or wounded	48.5%
I was sick, injured, or wounded	36.2%
I was not able to walk because of sickness, injury or wounds	1.9%
Other state of health when captured	13.1%

4. List the POW Camps in which you were held. Begin with the first one and time spent in each.

China	3
Japan	10
Korea	2
Phillipines	136
Mukden	23
Taiwan	4
Europe	1

* these are actual numbers because responses all spent time in more than one

Average months held captive 40 months

5. Did you require medical treatment while you were a POW?

Yes	No
93%	6%

6. For what conditions did you need medical treatment?

Malaria/Fevers	89%
Beri-Beri	28%
Skin Conditions	30%
Malnutrition	100%
Other	37%

7. Did you receive the medical treatment you needed?

YES	NO
16.5%	81.3%

8. Who usually provided the medical treatment?

I had no medical treatment	14.9%
I was treated only by a doctor who was a POW	66 %
I received poor treatment from enemy doctors	10.6%
I received good treatment from enemy doctors	2.1%
Other	6.4%
Blank	7.7%

9. In your opinion was the medical treatment adequate?

YES	NO
5.3%	91.6%

10. What was difference in weight from when you first entered the military and after being released as a POW?

The median weight difference 65 lbs.

11. Listed below are a number of fairly common experiences which POWs underwent. Please check any of them which applied to you:

Death March	51.7%
Solitary confinement	34.9%
Hard labor	86.9%
Threatened group punishment	91.8%
Held in prison ship	84.2%
Withdrawal of privileges	80.8%
Attacked by allied air or naval forces	66.9%
Physically punished, beaten or tortured	79.5%
Intensive/prolonged interrogation	28.1%
Enforced idleness	19.9%
Repeated solitary confinement	8.9%

Repeated solitary confinement	8.9%
Mistreatment by fellow POWs	13 %
Inadequate/deficient diet	89 %
Infected with germ warfare	15.3%
Other	20 %

12. What factors enabled you to survive your POW experience which you felt aided you to endure the hardships of captivity?

Faith	Family	Hope	Humor	Anger
55.5%	22.9%	38.5%	7.3%	12.8%

MILITARY STATUS

13. Are you now:

on active duty	2.3%
on military retirement	37.9%
left active duty	59.8%

14. When you resumed active duty after the imprisonment did you

pass the regular physical examination	50.5%
have the physical standards waived	40.4%

15. If you are retired from active duty, under what conditions did you retire?

Disability	39.6%
given a medical discharge	28.7%
other	31.7%

CURRENT DISABILITY STATUS

16. Have you applied for a disability rating from the Veterans Administration?

YES	NO
87.5%	12.5%

17. Have you been rated for a disability by the VA?

YES	NO
83.7%	16.3%

18. If you have been awarded a disability rating, please indicate from your award letter:

TYPE OF DISABILITY

Physical	62.9%
Phychological	31.6%
Nervous System	25.2%
Visual impariment	16.5%
Other	26.3%

PERCENT	NUMBER RESPONDING
10%	19
20%	10
30%	11
40%	7
50%	12
60%	9
70%	11
80%	5
90%	0
100%	22
Missing	29
other	21

19. The average age now is 65.

20. Listed below are a number of conditions, characteristics, or problems. Check those that are true for you today.

Financial trouble	15.8%
Domestic/Marital difficulties	25.7%
Sexual inadequacy/impotence	60.7%
Drinking to excess	18.4%
Boredom	32.2%
Restlessness	73.4%
Reoccurring or severe nightmares	62.9%
Irritability	64.3%
Persistent or reoccurring pain	63.6%
Drug dependency	9.8%
Difficulty in concentrating	63.6%
Other	25.9%

21. Beside each of the statements presented below, please indicate whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), Strongly Disagree (SD), or are Undecided (U).

a. The mortality rate of former POWs is lower than the national average.

SA	A	D	SD	U
17.9	12.9	8.6	57.1	3.6

b. Germ Warfare was used on very few of the men that you know of:

SA	A	D	SD	U
18.1	47.1	5.1	5.8	23.9

c. The Government should pay the POWs 100% disability

SA	A	D	SD	U
48.9	16.5	15.1	6.5	12.9

d. The Government is to much involved now in the problem

SA	A	D	SD	U
8.2	4.5	31.3	50.0	5.2

e. The POW experience is something each individual has to deal with and make sense out of in their own best way.

SA	A	D	SD	U
26.5	39	12.5	16.9	5.1

f. The Government has been helpful in bringing understanding to the situation.

SA	A	D	SD	U
3.6%	23.6%	25%	38.6%	9.3%

22. Have you received psychological counseling?

YES	NO
35.5%	61.7%

23. Which of the categories listed below describes your overall political orientation.

Strongly Conservative	14.1%
Moderately conservative	43.7%
Middle of the Road	33.8%
Moderately liberal	7 %

24. What is your religious identification

Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Other	None
60.3%	16.9%	4.4%	8.1%	10.3%

25. Please extimate your gross annual income

less than 8000	11.5%
8000 - 11,999	23.8%
12,000 - 19,999	23.8%
20,000 - 29,999	25.4%
30,000 - 39,999	6.9%
more	8.5%

WAYS THINGS COULD BE DIFFERENT

26. Would you be interested in seeing the legislative changes suggested in the enclosed legislation?

YES	NO
94%	3.7%

27. Would you be willing to send a letter to your State Representative to co-sponsor the legislation?

YES	LETTER SENT	NO	BLANK	OTHER
90%	36%	6%	13%	8%

28. Would you take advantage of the benefits being offered by the proposed legislation?

YES	NO
86.3%	12.2%

29. Would you recommend the doctor you are seeing now as "learned" and supportive of your POW experience:

YES	NO
43.1%	55.3%